M. L.

Gc
929.2
V243v
1907116

REYNOLDS HISTORICAL
GENEALOGY COLLECTION

ALLEN COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
3 1833 01433 8062

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2019

https://archive.org/details/valliantstory00vall

THE VALLIANT STORY

by

JAMES LeROY VALLIANT

1962

LD5655

1907116

THE VALLIANT STORY

CS
71
.V183
1962

JAI

Valliant, James LeRoy,1877- Comp.
The Valliant story. Franklinton, La., 1962.
92 p. typescript(xerox) 28 cm.

63736

I.Title. 1.Valliant fam.

7-20-26R

1962

F O R E W O R D

In presenting the VALLIANT STORY to the Clan , I do so wi with full knowledge of my limitations-------I ask all who read to be mindful of the greatest of the three virtues.

My purpose in collecting and and publicising these records is to bring recognition to that long procession of Valliants who did their modest bit in building our America. Having, in those musty old pages, glimpsed the life they lived ; I found them not only interesting , but brought also a somthing that has made easier my own way----easier for me to plot my own course between right doing and wrong doing---------the feeling as of their eyes upon me that brings a compulsion to walk straitly before them.

As I mention several times ,not all the Records were available to me , but despite that handicap there are not too many gaps in the procession . Enough was found to bring into the picture nearly every one in his approximate relative position. A position easily identified,so that the casual reader may find where he connects with the main stem. I have sought and presented the succession where possible and sometimes "Spotted" an individual on the authority of collateral facts.

I will not suggest;even, that my geneological table is without error; but I , with becoming modesty,I hope,and some hesitation,confess that I consider it the most accurate Valliant geneological table I have seen. I am not a geneologist,you may have to agree,but if pressed I might admit that I improved on some of their product. I have not attempted to produce a Family Tree for all,but have set up a framework of Valliant Successions definite and detailed enough for any one to who knows who his Grandfather was to set up a family tree rooted in the right place.

Here in advance I must appologize to the Valliant daughters. To track them through all their name-mutations was a task far beyound my capacity and time. I have used them on occasion to identify some man about to be lost in the haze of duplicate names.

In this mimeographed "Edition" I struck a compromize on Cost. As such, it is my gift to the Clan---- as "Freely given" as was Peter Carr's "Freely Given " old Redie to four or five year-old Nicholause. This printing takes for granted your forbearance. It is the work of my own hands ----and I am no printer,which you may suspect. I shall be richly paid for all my work if in America , all the tenth generation Valliants readers are led to tighten their belts and keep understandingly in step with all Americans seeking to make better this good land of ours.

One of the Long-horns,

James LeRoy Valliant

GENEOLOGICAL TABLE.

approx. date birth		Gen. No. I	date of death
I620	Jean	Villaine,VellaineBerlaineBerlant,Belayn,Balayne Partner of Francoise Poschet-Francis Posey married his widow.	I663
I659	John	2I--- I Married Mary Frith-Judieth."ofTred Avon, Clerk of Court, bought"Cumberland", Lobbs Corner,Eassons Addition &.&.	I722
I657	Nicholas	22--I Married "Mary ---". daughters Jemima, Presumptive grandfather of Daniel,Robert,John and Aron. Older than John. 2I--I death,nothing in Record. Never left Charles-St Mary.	
I695	John	3I--2I Married [illegible] Judieth ? . Moved to Talbot. Shore about I[illegible]-0. Acquired [illegible] "Part-	
nership		Partnership " with Perry Benson,lost Cumberland to Anthony Lecompte. Was Ship?. carpenter	
I700	James	32--2I never married, began the pre-emption of "Part" nership.	I732,
[illegible] I698	Joseph	33--2I Wife "[illegible] Sarah Ray" ,I740; children not recorded evidence shows John,James,Bennett,William,Nicholas.	
I728	John	4I--3I Married Mary LeCompte,Ferry Neck farms, i.e. Cumberland,Lobb's Corner Easson's Addition, Addition &. back to him by Anthony LeCompte, continued the ship yard,owned schooner SALLY.	I80I
I7I7	Thomas	42--3I Married Rachel Grace I737.	?
I728	Nicholas	43--3I "Of Easton" , had a ship in Rev. War service. He was too old for military service(army)	?
I730	John	44--33 married Eliza Cook (I749) served in 5th Maryland regiment (I777 to 8I) Caroline - Will named 4 brother , left no son.	I798.
I73?	James	45--33 Lived in Queen Ann's served in 5th Md. Regiment(I777 to 8I) no record of marriage	?
I722?	Bennett	46--33 ,Caroline, belonged to Haddaway Militia Company , Dorchester Census I790,- Ben.Jr.	?
I			
I73?	William	47--33 Caroline,Mill Hundred, Military Census I778.	?

I73 ? Nicholas 48--33 married Margaret Barnwell, was a cordwainer, lived Easton ?

I740 Thomas 49--? Wife "Esther", lived Caroline, owned Valliant's Delight. conducted an "Ordinary" I806.

I765 Hugh 50--49 , married Helender Tarlton lived in Caroline. owned Piney Point ?

I770 Thomas --49 5I married AnnTarlton(?) Will nentions "Unknown" son, Henry. I8I5

I769 John , 2 52--4I Married Elenor Rigby. Talbot I80I

I775 Jeremiah ,53--4I, married Harriet Smith Talbot, started the story of Gohst of Plaindealing I85I

I788 William 54--40I apparently died young I799

I730 Daniel 40I-- ? probable Grandson of Nicholas 22--I married Elizabeth Alford I787 I795

I79I Hugh 60--52 married Mary Stevens(I825)Dorchester I85I

I794 John 6I--52, married Mary Glendenny(I826) bought lots in new town of Vienna. I85I

I799 Rigby 62--52 married Mary Stevens, Dorchester raised large family I858

I796 James 63--52

I828 Hugh ..6[illegible]-5I- No Record 64-57 ?

I800 Henry ,65--50 The "Unknown, sold his part of Valliants Delight ?

I807 Thomas 66--50 Lived in Caroline brother of "Henry" ?

I8I2 John 67--53

I I8 ? Robert Samuel 68--53

I820 William H 69--53

I824 Lloyd N 600-53

I8?8 Hugh B. 60I--53 Share of Sharo's Island

T?I6 Joseph B. 602--53 2 2 2 2

I8I? Thomas S. 603--53 " " " "

I8I? Jeremiah 604--53

I765 John 506--44 Married Elizabeth Lowry I779. Lived in Caroline Registered, census I777 over I8 years old

I78? William 54--40I apparently died young.

I740 Robert 402-- ? Presumptive father of Robert Spencer. Lived in Queen Ann, Registered for military service.

I740-50 William T 55-43. Pvt. in Upper Battalion I78I Recd. bequest from Thomas, $500.00 .

I?65 Bennett 56--46 Married Martha Hurly I792, lived in Dorchester.

I7?0 Levin 57-- ? Married Peggy Vickers I794

I760 Denny , 58- ? Married Ann Vickers I786

I750 Joseph 59-? Revolution--sailor

I760 Benjamine ~~?0I--?~~ 500- ?

I755 Aron 50I--? Washington County, Revolution soldier

I755 Johnathan, 502--? Talbot County Revolution soldier

I760 Ansel ~~I?60~~ 503-? drafted I78I army, Caroline,

I772 Robert Spencer504-402 Married Martha Hurlock I794. First Valliant to emmigrate to West?i802)

A few of the above birth dates are exact but most only approximate. Where the Father number is ? no Record of paternity was found. These would have to be descendants of Nicholas of Charles County. Other names will be Added to the table as details are worked out-----particularly those sons of Thomas Rigby who followed Robert Spencer in the I850s. Where the families are well known details were omitted.

Born

I829 James [illegible] Our First Historian. Lived all his life
71--62 on Eastern Shore---St Michaels. Married a Grandaughter of Nicholas(One of themxx Nicholases)

I829 William Wallace- born I829 at Sharpestown. Was the
72 [illegible]--62 second Valliant to Go West,(i855) to Clarksville ,Tenn. Is burried at Ferry Neck.D.I882

[illegible]

I835 Thomas Rigby, born I835 , St Michaels. Also Went West in
73--62 late I850s. soldier in Confed. Army. Became Minister after war.lived Platt City,Kan.

I843. George Enos. Born in St Michaels. Went West I866. To
74--62 Clarksville Tenn. Died Albuquerque,N.M.I924.

I845 Edwin Sterns Sr.Born in St Michaels.
756-62

I849 John, Born in St Michaels. Died before Middle age.
76--62 Left one son (rigby)

I876 George Stacker, Born Clarksville,Tenn. Died Albuquer-
81--74 que; N.M. I95I. Contract Printer. Had one son,two daughters.

Pine Bluff ,Ark.

I88I Rigby Born [illegible]. Graduated,West Point
82--74 Military Academy I902, Retired I947. No children, Lives Vienna,Md.

I875 Rigby Born near St Michaels, Went North. New
83--76 Jersey. With Bell Telephone.

I880 Edwin Sterns Jr. Lives Centerville,Md. [illegible] Mfgr.
84--75 Fertilizers. Lost one son World war Two. second son,James, associated in business.

I890 Victor, Born near St Michaels. Lived North much of
85--7I his life,now in St Michaels,(blind now)

I868 Ernest ,Born near St Michaels. Went west, Died Portland,Oregon. No son.
86--7I

I870 William H. Sr. Born Talbot, Lived Bellevue, Re-acquired Valliant farms;Cumberland &. &. Sea-
77--68 food packer. Died I949

I868

I872 Jeremiah, Born in Talbot. Lived Oxford,Banker.
78--68 Died I944 ?.

? William H. Jr. Born Tolbert. Lives Bellevue,Postmaster.
87--7I

- died [illegible] 1951

1/00? Joseph Newnam 68--7I — Born Talbot. Lives on"Cumberland". His house stands on foundation & basment of house built by Coleston(shortly before its purchase by John 2I--I)in I702

? Robert 89--72 — Born Oxford, Lives Oxford, Farmer-businessman.

" Jeremiah 80I--72. — Born Oxford. Lives Salisbury, Ag. Impliment-auto dealer

I795 James T. 605--504. — Born Queen Ann,grew up in Ala. Married Margarett Thompson.I8I7. Tradition says a soldier at New Orleans I8I5.

I799 Denton Hurlock, 606--504 — Born Queen Ann,grew up in Ala. Married Narcissa Killpatrick. County Sherrif & Representative in Legis lature.

I806 William Taylor 607--504 — Born in Kentucky. Grew Up in Ala. Married Margaret Hussey. Died in I865 McCondy,Miss. burried Old Souls Chapel.

I8I7 Robert C. 608--504 — Born in Alabama,near Huntsville. Married Martha B.Moultri. Lived in Tennessee. Died I854

I8I7 David Thompson, 77--605 — Born in Lauderdale Co. Ala. Married Margaret Rodgers Feb. I4,I839. Moved to Miss. and then to Ark. Died I865.

I823 William C. 78--605 — Born in Lauderdale County. Died without children I845 or 44.

I830 LeRoy B. 79--606 — Born Lawrence Co Ala. Moved to Miss. Married Thedosia Worthington. Lieut in Confed. Army. Moved to Mo.after war. Became Mo. Supreme Court Chief Justice.

I840 Frank 70i--606 — Born Alabama, Lived later Miss ,Greenville. Confed. Soldier ,Lawyer.

I83? John Denton 702--607 — Born Miss. Chickasha County Lived near McCondy, burried Old Souls Chapel,I904.

I845 Robert 703--602 — Born Obion County Tenn. Married Matilda Caudle

I865 John William 802--702 — Born Chickasha County Miss. Married Cornelia Burch I902. Died near Bogue Falaya Church I952.

I870 James Madison — Born Chickasha County Miss.I948,No son.

Continued.

I870 James Madison 803--702 Burried at McCondy. Two Daughters.

I840 James Thompson 804--77 Born Lauderdale Co. Ala. raised Arkansas, Surgeon in Confed. Army. First married Mary Brandon, 2nd Allie Hobbs. had one son. Seven daughters. Died in Calif. I9I8.

William

I843 William 805--77 Born in Ala. Came to Ark. With the family married--two daughters supposed to have gone to Indian Territory about I870.

I846 Thomas 806--77 Born in Ala. married Loula Henderson near Jonesboro, Texas I875. 3 sons, 2 daughters

I848 LeRoy 807--77 Born in Mississippi near Pontotoc. With the family to Arkansas, to Texas about I870. Had six sons I daughter. Died at Sonora Tex.

I850 David Edward. 808--77 Born Pontotoc, Miss. With family to Ark. To Texas about I870. Married Martha Jane Brandon in Hamilton Co. I876. Had seven sons, four daughters Died McCullough Co. Texas, I92I.

I866 Edwin Darst 809--73 Born in Kansas. Went to Calif about I900. Near Holister, In I902 bought a vinyard Put Valliant Wine on the map

T870 Thomas Rigby Jr. 8I0--73 Born in Kansas. Moved to Calif. Lived near Holister then San Jose

I9I0 Edwin 9I--[illegible]809 born near Holister. Lives Sacremento--has farm near Gilroy.

I900 Thomas R:
92--8I0 Born near Gilroy-Holister. Lives Pecos, Texas.

I9I6 George Page 93--8I Born Albuquerque N.M. V.M.I. Capt. World War Two. 2 sons. Printing.

I867 Charles Samuel 94--804 Born Falcon, Ark, Married I897 Died I944. No son

I879 Perry 95--806 Born Jonesboro Texas, Married I902.

I88i
Marcellus
96--806 Born Jonesboro Died I949, No son

I885 Lester 97--805 Born Jonesbore, Tex. No Son Died ?

Born

The family of LeRoy Valliant (807--77) is inserted here without Birth or Marriage dates--------all of them so much alive that it never occured to me to collect their Dates. Five sons ,one daughter.

.....

..... Arch. 98--807. Unmarried, Lives Sonora,Tex.

..... Devers Married, No Son---rancher,near Sonora 99--807

..... Perry Unmarried, Rancher ,near Sonora. 901--807

..... LeRoy Jr. Married, one son, rancher ,near 902--807 Sonora.

..... Clarence, Married; two sons,one daughter, 903--807 rancher, near Sonora. Tex.

Present prospect is that none of the five will ever die. If any of the clan want to know how old they write to them at Sonora. My information is that not one has had even a stomach ache---yet. Theirs is a part of Texas that gets pretty dry,sometimes. When the grass is all burnt up they fall back on corn for their cattle----corn----irrigated corn.... irrigated by the water squeezed from Prickly-Pears. Our Web-footed Valliantsprobably wont understand about this sort of farming. Let it go as an indication that Longhorn Vs are Good, Period.

1877 James LeRoy, Married(1904) one son,one daughter.---3
904--808 grandaughters,two grandsons. Sailor,Nut-Splitter,pine Farmer, Family-Tree Surgeon.Jack-Of-all-Trades. Franklinton.La. RFD 4

1878 Robert Thompson Married, 4 sons ,3 daughters. Mechanic.
905--808 Lives Barstow,Tex.

1879 William Washington, Married,3 sons I daughter. Farmer,
906--808 Lives Anson ,Tex.

~~Edward Brandon~~

1881 Edward Brandon , Married, one daughter, Lives Oxnard
907--808 California.

1884 Louis Gordon , Married,4 sons , two daughters. Lohn Tex.
908--808

Two brothers of this family died young.

T H E V A L L I A N T S T O R Y

As Compiled by

JAMES LeROY VALLIANT

Three Hundred and Six years ago a young Frenchman whohad become a British subject emmigrated to to the Chartered Colony of Maryland,I2 years after its founding. The Colony then being centered around St.Maries near the tip of the penninsulalying between the James River and & Chespeake Bay...his name Jeane Villaine,as spelled in the Record---it has this to say about him :-"and I00 acres assignedfrom JohnVillainewho transported himself into this Province in I646 ". From this beginning so long ago,he and his descendants have continued,to this day,to be a part of Maryland.

It will be noted that the name in this record is notspelled as we spell it. The explanation lies in the difference between French and English pronounciation and spelling. Jean is pronounced very like John--with with a soft sound of J.--the final J is hardly pronounced at all.Valliant is Vaillant in French.The meaning is the same but sound is very different. By a French speaker it soundslike-Vai-ahn ,the final T being hardly audible. Since Jean could neither read nor writeand the clerks and scriveners probably knew no French ; the way to spell a name sounding like Vai-aun was any body's guess----and believe me,they made a lot of guesses. Not only was the spelling of the name recorded, varied but still further changes crept in when copyest did not copy correctly letters used origionaly in spelling names. This fact must be kept in mind as we study the Record. This confusion in spelling of French Colonist's names is further exemplified in the spelling of the name of the man closely associated with Jean (John)---another Frenchman who came ahead of John.--His name-Francoise Poschet.---Whose name after numerous and variedn spellings in the Records winds up as Francis Posey.---and so remains tothis day. The Poseys may still be found in St. Maries and Charles and Calvert Counties. Incidentaly,it is worth mentioning here that I found the grave of Samuel Posey near the grave of Robert Spencer Valliant(our G.G.G Pa.) and his son Robert C. in the old graveyard of the Methodist Church at Elbridge ,Tenn.-----R.S.V. died and was burried there in I848. This suggests the possibility that the association of the two familieshad not entirely ended at that late date.

Before going into the family story as found in the Records, some attention should be paid to that part of it based on Legend and Tradition. That takes us back not only to England,but to France------to the city of Saumer where,Family Tradition says Jean was born. It was during the period of the Religious Wars and Persecutions. Saumer was a center of this religious "Dissent" from the State,or Established,Religion. This Religious rebellion covered

most of the Loir provinces all the way to the Sea. Louis XIV conducted all-out war against these Dissenters. This brought to their aid Naval and Military support from Protestant England , thus establishing a tie between these peoples that historians took notice of and wrote that :-- "In the period of the Religious Wars,the ties of Religion were stronger than the ties of Nationalism " .....and, as a consequence, for a considerable period, communication and travel between Nantes and English ports relatively unimpeded. It was in this atmosphere that our Jean or possibly his father, went to England and became a Naturalized Citizen or Subject. Efforts have been made to identify Jean in the English Records , but the results have not been conclusive. Mr Joseph Valliant of Baltimore (who died some years ago) once employed a London genealogist to examine the Records there for data concerning the Valliant family. I have read,and copied, that record report given Mr. Joseph. My copy was destroyed during my absence in World War Two. Mr. Joseph's son Gordon Valliant was killed in an automobile accident,so I was unable to replace my copy when I last visited Baltimore. I can recall that a Jean Valliant was granted Naturalisation.....on a given date and in a given Court but there was no positive proof that such a Jean was our Ancestor. The task of making these identifications from the Record is complicated bythe number of Valliants and Valliants that appear. The name first appears in 1560 , when there is a reference to"John Valyant of Scaland (Scotland) in the Low Countries,,who is "Serving" against [illegible] "Freebooters" & Sea-Rovers of the Low Countries. In the year 1[illegible] Michael Valliant registered at the Walloon Church (Huguenot) in Canterbury.. On October 6 1597 , Jean Valliant and Marguerite Valliant were married at the French Huguenot church in Threadneedle Street , London. On May 16 , 1602 Pierre Valliant, Jean and Marie L'Escuyer were married. On Jan. 31 , 1603 Jan Valliant appears in the Records. These names given are from the Records of the Huguenot Society , Volume One to Ten. There are in these Records 22 entrys that concern persons named Valliant or a variant of that name. I would not attempt to say which of them is of the family of our Grandsire, but that one of them is just that I have not the slightest doubt-----neither do I have the slightest doubt that the tradition concerning Saumer as the birth-place of our Grandsire should be accepted as fact.

Another tradition is one concerning the arrival of Jean in America. This says that his first appearance is in the list of passengers on a ship arriving at Oxford, which said :- "John Valiant , Gentleman , Robin , Boy". This is an oft repeated story, but I could find nothing of it in my search of the Records at Easton, Dalton,Cambridge, Annapolis and the Library of Congress in Washington. Mr. James Valliant(now dead) ,father of Mr. Victor Valliant ,still living in Saint Michaels------tells this story and follows it up with the statment that (I quote) : "John came to Talbot County Maryland, probably about 1660-65 on board a ship which landed at Oxford. ..... ? Welsh , then one of the main ports

inent men in the colony,was a passenger on this vessel. He had been to Talbot County before,but had returned to England to bring over his wife and child,an only daughter. On the same ship was a Mr. Chamberlain,whom she later married." Mr James does not give any documentation or other authority for his story , but the naration of other events shows him familia with handed down history in his day. However I must point out that Oxford could not have been the port at which his ship entered because Oxford was not thought of until nearly ten years after his appearance in the Record. Here is what the History of Talbot County has to say about the matter :- "At a Court meeting held on the farm of Mr William Combs on Tuesday July 29 , 1684 , laws were passed for the laying-out of a town on Tred Haven creek. According to this Act of the Assembly the land was surveyed,divided into lots , and the town was called Oxford. Each lot was numbered and the people were urged to take them up. But, if a person did not build on his lot within a certain time after he had taken it up, the Assembly took it away from him and gave it to some one else. It is thought that some of these lots were taken up upon pure speculation,for many gentlemen whose names are on this list as landowners in Oxford had large estates and interests in other sections of the country which prevented them from making their homes or place of business here. .....Little is known of the town after its laying out in 1684. ....After the Revolution in England in 1688 Maryland became a Royal Province and all laws .....concerning towns were repealed"..... ...."However a law was passed in 1694 for the erecting of Anne Arundle and Oxford which became the sole Ports of Entry and clearance of vessels for the Province. A Naval Officer and Collector or their Deputies were required to live in each Port. .....Commissioners were named for buying the land in Oxford,for surveying and laying it out into lots. This law stated that a hundred acres should be bought to be divided into streets,lanes , alleys and open lots on which Public Buildings were to be built. ...It also changed the name of Oxford and Anne Arundel to Williamstadt and Annapolis respectioly.....In 1704 the name was changed back to Oxford ". Mr. James' Tradition must have been founded on the arrival of a ship at St. Maries. But his name is not to be found in the passenger lists of ships entering the Colony that have been preserved and published. Had he been a member of the crew of a ship entering the Colony,he could have left such ship and still would have been considered as "Transporting himselfx into the Colony". Mr James seems not to have consulted the Record so has confused and combined in one John the events in the lives of a father John and a son John. There are few years between 1646 and 1700 in which there is no mention of a John,or a Nicholas Valliant. John ,the Immigrant is in the Rexord nearly every year from his entry in 1646 to his death in early 1663. True these appearances are under variously spelled name. To any of us who may question my conclusion that all these wierd spellings refer to the same person----and that person Jean Vaillant-----I can only reply : "Go read the record. It is quite evident to me

considered through context,subject matter,sequence,time and place during that period between I648 and I663(year of John's death) , and, also in records as late as I672 in a land-title suit styled : "Sparks Vs. Louis" in which the dispute is over title to lands ---"Surveyed for---(I quote the record verbatim)---"ffrancis Posey and john Berlaint ". The case had repeated trials,was still in Court in I672. with numerous reference to the origional grantees.....whose names are spelled first one way and then another. In one spelling the name began with a V and later spellings began with a B. I called the attention of Mr Thomas,the Archivist in charge of Maryland Hall of Records at Annapolis, who told me that in the writing of that day the letters B and V were frequently used interchangably. There were also several instances where the final letter in the origional was a T but in the reprints the final letter was E.....in the same paragraph of course. I called the attention of Mr. Thomas to this also. He , after studying the origional said the final letter was T and that the copyist had made a mistake. Besides the Sparks-Louis case there is another land Record that shows this same lack of uniformity in spelling names of persons unable to read and write. This Record is short,I will give it in full. It is from a re-print by the Maryland Historical Society---Vol. 69 , page 424.-------date: "Second Tuesday in June,Iune, I672, first day of Court".....Conveyance ; John Grubbs to Holms. -----"This Indenture made IIth day of May I672, between John Grubbs of Charles County and George Holms of the same County---witnesseth that : ---(here follows all the usual whereases and to-wits of legal forms)----- "All that parcel or tract of land called Grubb's Venture,in Charles County,nigh Wicomico Freshe,beginning at a bounded white oak called Fisher's Bound Tree---thence East-North-East I40 perches to a Bounded gum tree ----standing by Sacaiah swamp----thence N.W. I00 perches to a Bounded whyte oak----thence S.W. by W. I05 perches to a Bounded red-oake ~~~~~~~~ the Bounded-Tree of John Billaines ---thence South 50 perches to a red oake and thence tothe beginning----80 acres ". Here ,it will be noted, is a return to the sames spelling as used in John's first appearance in the Record....except that use of B for a V. The final s that is used merely indicates the possessive. I might here also point out that all the lands of Francis and John were a Saccaiah Manor. The fact that thes Bounded-Tree of John Billaines is still so called ten years after his death must be due to the fact that his son John with others of the family still lived on the still lived on the land there---as will be shown later.

I have said that inability to read and write accounts for the corruption of our name---through mis-spelling ; nut, it does not account for all such vagaries :-- I have on my desk now a letter addressed to me at my present address , to :- J.L.Valien. He spelled at what he thought he heard. I am never surprised at any spelling a stranger's fancy may give our name. In my boyhood we had a neighbor who called us"Valyens" I once sailed with a man who called me"Mr. Waliant. So, what I found in the record did not surprise me. I have not exhausted

exhausted the Record of examples of all the examples of vagaries and variations in spelling--the latest beingViliant bt the pastor of our neighborhood Church) but I think it is enough to establish my interpretation of the Records' spelling as it relates to our family and its history. I will continue our "Story" , quoting from the Record and its spelling whenever appropriate without stopping for further explanation when one of these wierd spellings appears. To all of us Francoise Poschete is Francis Posey and Jean Villain-Verlain-Berlaint,Belaind--Belayne Vaillant is John Valliant. The Record always is about the same persons,in the same place in a connect-series of events.

That Posey and Vaillant are long associated in their farming or "Planting is also clearly shown in this "Sparks-Louis " case. It having been considered through or during several Sesons of the Provincial Courts-----begining in Feb. I669. They are recorded in "Judgments" , Book W.C. , Pages 2I6-2I7 and 2I8. The tract of land is identified and described at each session. The second trial is recorded on pages 370--37I and 372 6f the same Book. On page 270 the text mentions :"Posey & Vailland,Planters". Here the land is : " I50 acres,part of a a tract of 450 acres surveyed for "Possey and Vailland,Planters" On page 37I it is ; "Francis Possy and John Verlaint" On page 372 it is Francis Possey and John Verlaint. This association began not later than I648 and ended in I653 or 54 on the death of Francis. Within a year after his death his widow married John, the partner of her late husband. There is no date or record of their marriage ceremony , but there entries in the Record that show it must have taken place about that time.

Sinde Francis is so closely related to Valliant history in thoso colonolial days it will be interesting to know something more about him. This is made easy by the fact that he is in the Record every year from his arrival in I640 until his death in I653-4. Several years have numerous entrys concerning him. In I64I his listed among the "Fremen" of the Colony, is summoned to Saint Maries to elect "Burgesses" to represent the "Hundreds" of the Colony----the Hundred corresponded roughly to our Precinct. Posey was chosen a Burgess,that is,Member of the Lower House of Chamber of the Provincial Assembly. The Upper House consisted of the Lord-Lieutenant and such other persons as he selected. In the I642 meeting of the Asembly, Posey was present and bearing the proxy of seven other Burgesses. The Minutes of this meeting show that several members were fined for being absent. Altogether it was a bad year for Francis. He was in court five times,either as Plaintif,Defendant or Juror. He wound up the year by demandingpayment from the Lord-Lieutenant of I000 pounds of tobacco for damage suffered by his crops by reason of his absence answering the summonses of the Lord Proprietor. In I643 he was sued for 270 pounds of tobacco owed to Francisco Van Enden for a suit of clothes.....Francis must have been stepping-out. It was the year of Elizabeth's arrival in the Colony. In this year he made a part payment of a boat. Among their winding "Freshes"(creeks) a boat might travel further and faster than a horse and cart. He is also on the Record that year as a

"Fugitive from debt"....although he seems to have been on the all the time. In 1646 he mortgaged his crop to Robert Holt. In 1647 he "Sued through his attorney,for 2600 pounds of tobacco and 6 barrils of cornedue him from John Hatch". Not long after this he sued Thomas Waggot "for one barril of corne". There is so much about Francis in the Record that only a part need be quote here-----four to ten times a year mention as Burgess,Juror, Defendant,Plaintiff,Buyer,Seller,Landowner---before the arrival of John in the Colony. All the above are in the records of the Provincial Courts of Saint Maries County. On its 500 pages his name appears 34 times.

John's first appearance in the Record is in Provincial Court Proceedings of Saint Maries County....pages 351 and 360. The date is Jan. 4th 1647. He is a witness in the case of "Hudson Vs. Stevens--debt of 350 Lbs. of tobacco" This Record was almost unreadable byy me , but I found it"Translated" in a re-print by the Maryland Historical Society in the Maryland Archives at Annapolis. Note ----In looking up this record I found among the Ws of the index this line:-- Willain,see Villain"--indicating that Villain is the person meant.-------- In the case refered to John made a Reposition.

The next appearance of John in the Record is also in Court. This time it is the case of Stevenson again. It is from Court and Testamentary Proceedings, Book A.-page 360. Styled :- "MUNDAY Vs. STEVENSON". "Testamony of Henry Clay. ----"Henry Clay, aged 24 years or thereabout,sayeth upon oath,at the request of Thomas Munday, that being at the saind Munday's howse he,the deponent,heard Edward Hudson and Thomas Munday recon with William Stevenson and the said Stevenson did not deny but th't he remayned ~~XX~~ deb't to Thomas Munday 270 pounds of tobacco, but denyed to give bill for the ~~USM~~ s'd am&nt unto Thomas Munday aforsaid unless he could first speak Philip Arthur. And further, said Henry Clay say'th that the said Stevenson had a shirt for which he,the said Stevenson, was to give another wothin 2 or 3 weeks. And further say'th not"

Signed Henry His X Mark Clay " .

Immediately following the above came this entry :--

"John Villaine deposeth idem ad verbatim"

Signed John His X mark Villaine " .

The ~~mm~~ date of this last case is not given but it follows immediately after,in the Record the case dated Jan. 4. 1647.

That Shirt that got into Court must have been a classy number,possibly an early Hopalong Cassidy model....or,possibly they were on short shirt-rations---One per man ---the latter most likely as the buckskin-fringed, Daniel Boon model had not yet made its appearance. Equaly interesting would have been an entry irdicationg the occasion for which the shir

on the West side of Wiccomico creek,near Neals creek,bounding on the South with a creek called Posey's creek on the West with a freshe run fallinginto the said Posey's run ; on the East with a fresh run fallinginto the said creek called Purlant cre creek ; on the North with a linee drawn West from the head of Purlane's creek until it intersects a paralell line drawn from Posey's run, containing and laid out for 700 acres more or less .....and all woods , to have and to hold, the same unto them, the said Francis Posey and John Purlant -(or Vurlant---the name was all but indecipherable by me--JLV.) , their heirs and Assigns forever".

Given under my hand ._____ at St Maries, the first day of July I649 ".

I copied the above Proclamation from the origional Record in the Maryland Archives at Annapolis. I am not sure yet whether the first letter used in the spelling of John's name was a B or a P or a V. Faded and ill written I could not decide. But then my difficulties were not merely with first and last letters of names. There were whole words and even phrases that I could not make out. Frequently I called on Mr. Thomas the Archivist for help....sometimes it was Miss Magruder , a professional geneologist or still another ,the geneologist or historian of the Posey family ,who was working on another subject at the time but whose name I do not now recall In the records of this case I found Poseys name spelled six different ways. I think I should mention here that this Posey family historian ,though at first hesitant, in the end agreed with me that Berlant ,Berland ,Belayne,Verlayne all referred to Vellaine or Vaillant, the French partner of Francis Posey.

At this point in our Story comes Francis Posey's wife, Elizabeth. We do not know her family name, or antecedants... but, after reading all the Record no one will deny that she was quite a Gal. John had no need of the Record. She Record indicates she entered the Colony as an indentured or contract servant. That is she had contracted to work for a certain period in repayment of her transportation into the Colony. But Elixabeth had hardly started the term of her contract when Francis happened along-----either in need of a wife or or succumbing to her charms paid for her transportati and married her. All this is set forth in the following extract from the Record. It is from Maryland Archives ;volume A.B. & H. , page 48. Dated July I6 , I650;- ..... " Francis Posey demandeth 50 acres of land in right of his now wife,whom he bought of Mr. Triswick,whose servant she was,being for her transportation into this Province about seven years since, and I00 acres in respect of one, Thomas _____?_____,manservant whom he bought of Mr. Prudon, of Kagnoban,and whom he transported into the Province about five years since.------Issued :----warrant to lay out I50 acres of land for Francis Posey at Swan Point upon Potomac river; on the farthest side of Wear's creek from Mr. Neal's

Page 7 ------addition

The second appearance of Francis and John in association in the Record is in 1649. It is in a Proclamation by the Lord-Lieutenant,Cecil Calvert(brother of Lord Baltimore) recorded,in due and ancient form,in Book # 4, A.B.&.H. ,page 20.--(Hall of Records, Annapolis). :---

"Caecilius :

Know Ye, that We,for and in consideration that Francis Posey did transport himself into our said Province of Maryland,in the year 1640,there to reside and dwell,as also one,Joseph Gregory, his servant,and,that John Knott hath assigned unto the said Posey 180 acres of land due him for transporting himself into this said Province in Anno Domini 1643, and, that John Villaine hath assigned to him 100 acres due him for transportation into said Colony in 1646,and, that the said Posey hath 100 acres more due him by assignment from Thomas Ashbrook,as appears upon Record;We have,by advice,Granted &. Enfeoffed unto the said Francis Posey and John Ber-lant, Planters, all that parcel of land lying and being

plantation---by the lastof November next ". But this is not the first appearance of Elizabeth in the Record. When I copied the entry I forgot to put down the page number,but the volume is A.B. &. & H. and the date is December 6 , I647. This says :- - - " "A Deposition made by Elizabeth Posey,wife of Francis Posey". I did not copy the Deposition for want of time. Her name ,status and date being all I was interested in. This entry in the Record makes the date of her marriage not later than I647 and probably a year two earlier-----since at the time of her marriage Mr. Triswick had not yet taken steps to claim the land due him for her transportation into the Colony. She arrived in I643, so it is likely that the marriage probably took place in I644 or 45.

Now that Elizabeth is established as a Member of the family all that concerns her interests us. Besides appearing in the above mentioned Vol. A.B. & H. she appears in Provincial Court Proceedings----a large volume covering the period I637 to I69Ø, In this Record only the Court Sessions are dated,the cases are undated. So, in the Session dated December, I646, on page 344 is recorded :- " Elizabeth Posey ,wife of Francis Posey, made Deposition inCourt in the case of Thomas Munday, charged with stealing ears of corne". This Record advances the date of marriage to 46. Francis also was ✓ November I646. Francis statment is on page 330....in the same case. 1646

The lands patented to John and Francis were a part of Sachiah Manor.....this means that land ownership was absolute, but was held subject to payment,to the Lords Proprietors,of a small annual rental fee. This is set out in Land Records, Book #2, page 482 where is recorded the Patent confirming this limited ownership----giving metes and bounds and statment of the annual payments to be made:--- " I4 shillings ornd 7 bushels of corne annualy ". Not an exbøbitant amount for 700 acres. But in addition Provincial taxes had to be paid. This indicates that "corne" was valued at two shillings a bushel---a good price considering the purchasing power of the Shilling in those days. It should be understood that "corne" did not refer to Indian corn or maize ,but to wheat. The colonist had not at this taime taken up the cultivation of Indian corn then grown and eaten by Indians of the South-Eastern part of the country. In the earlier Records Sachiah Manor appears in Saint Maries county but after the creation of Charles county it appears in Charles Records. 1702

The association of Francis and John gets into the Record frequently---so much so that I have not been able to understand its having been overlooked by those Valliants as have looked at at the Record. As far as I can find out none have looked beyond the entry quoted already,of the assignment of I00 acres by John to Francis. Their association and the course it took is what might be expected of them.....finding a Countryman there and already established,john joins up with him--neither can read or write.....they want land in a block,so john assigns his hundred and they get the block....occupy it already

as a matter of fact. What we read in the Record is the official Act of confirmation. This naturaly comes much later than the actual pre-emption. Another instance showing their association comes in I650. It is in Testamentary Business, (Maryland Archives) , period I649-I650 ----page 36; dated Dec. I650. It is as follows :

"Case of Paul Simpson Vs. Francis Posey & John Villaine. William Lane being plaintif's Attorney. , sues for Io95 Lbs. of tobacco and 40 arms-lengths of Roanoke on account.----Mr. Richard Brown,attorney for Defendants,denyeth the debt in part and desires liberty to discomptfor the rest. But, it appearing to the Court that the matter on both sides consisteth of, ~~xxxxxx~~ accompts,which by reason of the Parties absence can not be at present fitted for the determination of the Court--being very unperfect------it is ordered ,by the consent of the Attorneys on both sides, that the furthere hearing of this Cause be respited till the next Court where the Parties themselves are to be present. Strangely ,this case was not brought up again until March 2nd. I653-----or at least that is what the figures looked like to me. It is recorded in the second section of the same book as the first hearing of the case. It is recorded on page 338. The style remains the same; Paul Simpson Vs. Francis Posey and John Villaine. The Court ruled :: ---------"The case is dismissed for want of prosecution and the Plaintif is to pay 300 pounds of tobacco in cask, in respect of unjust molestation ".

The above is the last entry in the Record,that I found, entered during the ~~xxxxxxxxxxxxxxx~~ period when both John and Francis were alive. But it is quite possible there other entries in the volumes of the Archives that were in the hands of Processors ---being treated for preservation. A further search of the Record should be made. It

It should be understood that besides Testamentary Proceedings the Archives consist of volumes of recorded Wills, Deeds , Provincial Assembly ,~~xxxxxx~~ County Cpunty Court Proceedings and Provincial Court Proceedings. Many cases are to be found in two different records.

CORRECTION----------I was wrong in saying I650 was the last entry that concerened Francis AND John. There is another in I65I. This is in Vol. A.B. &.H. pages I37--I38. date I65I. It is a record of a Deed of Transfer of land ---a tract called "Batchelor"and a tract called"Posey" :- "To Francis POsey and John Burlane." I did not have time to copy the metes and bounds.

Now to the Record that concerns John alone. First , I call attention to the spelling of John's name in the Deed to trades Batchelor and Posey. It is the first occurance of B used in the spelling"Burlane". The explanation lies in the then practice of using B for a V.---in the same way that in old books we see an F. used for an S. Sinner would be spelled Finner.....Soul ,be spelled Foul. I have already mentioned

Mr. Thomas,the Archivist in Maryland Hall of Records as my authority on the custom or practice of using a B in place of a V.

The first appearance of John in the Record alone after the long period of joint appearances with Francis is in I65I. It is in the Md. Historical Society&s reprint of Md. Archives. -----I forgot to copy Vol. and page, but think it was Vol. 5I. The date is November 26 when he gives receipt for -----"400 Lb of tobacco of I300 due him from out of the Customs according to Act of the Assembly in that behalf"

His
"Signed John X Villaine
Mark

"Witness , Nicholas Pwither".

With John's next appearance in the Record comes a side-light of the history of every-day life in those days. It is June 22 , I652. It is recorded in that two-in-one Volume of the Record....period, I649-50 and I652-57, of Court and Testamentary Business. Here John is charged---------"Charged by George Ackerman with Defamation of Character, in that to a witness he said :- ""Me and my boy mark't ó shoats in Summertime and turned them down the Neck and, moreover,I went down one day and found them in their bed,having my Mark & the next day I went down and found them in the same bed but mark't with Walter Bean's Mark and their ears all bloody, and the said Vallance further saith that he saw three pigs with Walter Bean's Mark and their ears all bloody , and the said Vallance further saith that he saw 3 pigs in Walter Bean's house which sucked from his sow , and further this deponenent saith not ". I never did find what the Court decided about the matter------it was before the days of blood test for "Strains" and Solomon's test would not have worked for pigs.

I did not find John in the Record again till I653 , but this was because I did not find all the books for the missing years. Meanwhile Francis has died. The date is not recorded but it was probably early in I654. On April 6th of that year the Court ordered : (Maryland Historical Society re-print of "Estates" , Vol. 3 , page 46)---"Francis Posey having died without making a will, it is ordered that Letters of Administration be forthwith drawn. -----To Walter Hall---Whereas Francis Posey, deceased,late of St Maries County, dyed withouy making any Will. We therefore do graunt unto you you, the said Walter Hall of Newtown in County aforsaid,full power and authority to administer all goods,chatels &. debts of deceased" A few days later---April II, Henry Fox also petitions,in Charles County,for an Administrator of Francis Posey's Estate.--------(Minutes of Court of Charles County Court--- I649- I657, page 380) Then on May 27th followin,(same Vol. ,page 417) to the Court -----Henty Fox acknowleges receipt of 900 pounds of tobacco and cask from the Estate of Francis Possy." Then on May 23rd. same year,

page 382 ; same volume-- "Mathew Pope claims 600 pounds of due him from the Estate of Francis Posey". I could find no report record of the final settlement of Posey's estate. There is another record which (Minutes of Charles County Court,at Saint Maries----Re-print by Maryland Historical Society , Vol. XLI,page 46)- says : "Francis Posey,deceased, --Executor appointed by the Court April 6 1654.....Walter Hall gave bond for due performance of the duty. On page 100 of this same Vol. XLI, it is recorded that Christopher Russel enters claim for 100 pounds of tobacco due him.

Now back to John. During the year 1658 he kept the Court Clerk pretty buisy. This is shown in Maryland Historical Society Re-print of Maryland Archives , Vol. 53, In this volume the index shows that the printed names Vallaine,Villain Belaine refer to the same person. Here are the entries *-

Page 8 ,1658, July 20.---in Court :* "John Villaine demands a Warrant against John Courts for Defamation----Hannibal Spicer and Elizabeth Spicer called as Witneses ".

Page 10 , 1658, Aug. 5th.(same book) :- " John Vallaine, Summoned by Court as a witness----case ofWilliam Britton Vs. Christian Carmell"

Page 17,1658 Oct. 26, (same book) -"John Villaine ,charged before the Court [illegible] , Saint Maries, by Gill Tompkins ; Warrant issued ".

Page 79,same book, 1658, Sept. 4th. " John [illegible] Vallaine registered the "Mark for his hogs and cattle. I did not copy the description of this Mark but if any present day Valliant wants to use it for their own, I will get it for him--or her.

Page 197,Vol. 52, Md. Historical Society Re-print Md. Archives :-- "Richard Trew Deed to John Belaine a tract of land 300 acres, called Burlane's or Barlane's Hill. This Burlane I take to be a further corruption of the name Villaine -Vaillan

Page 182, Vol. 53 Md. Archives Re-print, Charles County Court; September term. ----" Robert Sly sues ? Dagon on account for &40 pounds of tobacco , which was to have been paid on the plantation of John Belayne.

Page 191 , Vol. 53 , Same Re-print. Spt. Term Charles County Court 1659, John Billaine summoned for Jury duty". The case on which he sat as juryman involved an exOrbitant charge against the county. Since it gives us a close-up view of the way things went(sometimes) in those days I give the record in full with the reminder that the aptness of modern "Morticians" and Funeral Directors in amplifying and elaborating funeral accessories may not be,after all, an entirely new acquirement.

NOTE---the case refered to above as the Funeral case is wrong ---no details on that case. The funeral case is 1661. It is --Page 194 , Vol. [illegible] 53 , Md. Archives Re-print. March

term of Court. (Correction, I confused the two summonses for Jury duty. Page I9I is jury duty in I659 without details. The page I94 entry for March I66I is concerened with the Funeral story)-------- The case is titled :- "Unjust charges ,to the County,for Funeral Expenses made by James Lea, to wit :- Items,

Two pounds powder, value.....	20 lbs.	Tob.
Two boytles of drams 2	I5 "	"
Boat hire and hands to fetch beer	300 "	"
36 yds. black ribbing,i2 labs. tob. per yd. ...	432 "	"
Three barrils of beer	900 "	"

The Court gave instruction to the Jury :---""In Primis : To inquire whether at an ordinary Planter's wife's funeral it bee not rediculous to shoote,as they usualy doe at a young soldiers death,or other Commander's in war. -------To enquire whether it bee Christianlike at a funeral for too or three neighbors------to turn their browsing cups to the quantatie of three barrils of beeare to the quantitie of 900 pounds of tobacco " ---------- Deciphering that script took me so long that I did not have time to copy the findings of the Court. If only too or three neighbors took part in that Wake---they must have been of much greater capacity than we moderns.

When John bought the tract of land called Burlane's,or Vurlanes Hill from Richard Trew in I659, nothing was recorded of the price, or whether it was a cash or part time-payment. What looks like a part payment to Trew took place in I66I,when John gives Trew a Bill-of-sale to cattle without mention of the price.---(recorded in Md. Archives re-print Vol. 53 , page number lost by me)-----date March 4 I66I ----- " John Belayne gives Bill-of-sale to Richard Trew for one blacke cow named "Blacke" and another cow ~~rumndx~~ called "Nansie" "------that was all.no brand,no description , but if Blacke and Nansie both answered when called there was no need for a description.

In December I66I (recorded in same book,53, on page I67, John was summonsed to Court for the case of Joan Michel Vs. Edward Philpot.

On May I2 , I662 (Charles County Court Proceedings, page I6) John Belayne and his wife Elizabeth are named Defendants in a Suit brought by Daniel Johnson"----but no further details given. It is from a list of cases tried. But there is a record ,dated a month earlier (in the same volume of re-print number 53, page 352 , Md. Historical Society) record in which the same Daniel Johnson asks the Court :- "Demands warrant against John and Elizabeth Belaine in an action of the Case-----and subp. to Edward Richmond and Edward Swan--?--. Sub.--Warrant to Sheriff to arrest and warn---UT,--SUPRA. But there is no record of the nature of the Cause.

In John's next appearance in the record there is a suggestion that back in those days they may have had some ideas like those behind present day "Future Farmers of America. It sounds that way to me. It is in the Md Historical Society re-print ,Number 53 (I lost the page number). Here it is :-----"Peter Carr makes a Deed of Gift---Court held Sept. 30,

These Presents witnesseth t[illegible] I , Peter Car[illegible] [illegible]oe freely give unto John Belayne's sone, [illegible] [illegible]olaus Belayne, [illegible]ver, one red cow, crop on boath [illegible]rs and [illegible]erkeeled of bo[illegible] ears[illegible] [illegible] and a slit o[illegible] the right [illegible]r and a peece [illegible]en of the left eare ; which sa[illegible] cow and [illegible] wholle increas[illegible] [illegible]oath mayle and female, I do fre[illegible] give un[illegible] the said Nichola[illegible] Belayne, his he heirs &. assignes forever.

His
Signed Peter [illegible] Carr ".
Mark "

Note , Peter's Mark is [illegible]n ordinary X but was a sort of Brand somthing like a [illegible] l T over a small n , [illegible] . That just about settles for a[illegible] [illegible]me the ownership the ownership of "Nicholause's cow, R[illegible] It sounds as if little of her ears could be left. [illegible] is not impressed on hearing that document read, I dont [illegible] [illegible]uch about boys, particularly five-year-olds. He was abo[illegible] [illegible]at age when he got into the cattle business. At this fi[illegible] appearance of Nicholas in the Record the Long-Horn Valliants [illegible]ould take notice. According to my summing up of the Record, he is our Progenator. I have only collateral facts to support such conclusion---there are [illegible] no complete birth records left preserved . More about this later.

The date of John's death is not recorded , but other Records show that he died late in I663. In the Md. Historical Society's re-print Md. Archives , Vol. 53 page 423. date Jan. 5 , I663 . which says :- "Elizabeth Belaine entereth a Cauet(?) against David Pritchard's Estateto the valew of 500 pounds of tobacco by bill " . This must mean that he is ill, unable to attend Court, with Elizabeth acting for him.

His will is made later and is dated May 23rd. I663. I copied the Will from the origional record. It is from Testamentary Proceedings, Charles County, Book I- , page 20. (Now in the Hall of Records, Annapolis.

The Will of John Belayn

"In the Name of God, Amen.

I, John Belayne , being very weak and sick, but in perfect memory, praise be to God, doo, in the first place bequeathe my soul to God Almighty and my body to the Earth, and, as for my Worldly goods and estate , I do dispose of as follows, VIZ.

Imprimis :-- I desire that William Marshall and Peter Coe to be Overseers for the good of my children.

Item--- I do give and bequeathe the one half of my estate, Real and Personal unto my children.

Item--- The other half of my Estate, as aforsaid, unto my wife and her children. And , as long as my wife shall Or doth keep the children that then she to make use of the

whole Estate , and to this ,my Last Will and Testament. I set my hand this twenty-third day of May I663 ".

His larger

Signed ---- John Baylan
Mark

Witnesses

John Courts
Alexander Smith-His X Mark
Maverell Tully

Before Justices :

Thomas Mathews
Henry Adams.

Note---the witness Alexander Smith later married Elizabeth.

It will be noted that here John's name is spelled Baylan. If Mr. Thomas' rule in old spelling be taken we would have Vaylan, which would show that John was taking notice of the sound of his name.

As I have said,there is no date in the Record for John's death, but the Probation of his will indicates the Summer of I663. Here is the Record of the Probation.

"John Balayne "

"In re , Will of

Before Commissioners :- WAELD
MATHEWS
HARRISON
MARSHALL "

"This day came Elizabeth the relict of John Balayne and had the witnesses to her husbands Will,sworn before Mr. Henry Adams and Mr. Thomas Mathews, who were :- John Courts ,Maverell Hals and Andrew Smith, who all swore that it was the Will and Testament of John Belayne annexed to the Letter of Administration, and further sayeth not "

Thomas Mathews
Henry Adams
Witnesses Maverell Hulse
Alexander Smith.

"Nov. 3. I663

This is from Md. Historical Society Re-print Vol. 53 page 407

The Probation was followed later by a Petition for appraisal and Administration. Its date was not clear beyond the year I663. The Record says :- :-

------ " Whereas Elizabeth, the relict and last wife of John

Balayne of Charles County,aforsaid, hath exhibeted unto ye Cherkffs' office for Probate of Wills and graunting Admin. , ye last Will and Testament of ye said John Balayne ;requesting to have issue of administration thercupon graunted. Considering ye weakness of ye said Elizabeth has in ability ;-to have an attorney appointed in ----and for the Court to appoint an Appraiser to make a just appraisal of the land " This Petition does not appear in the record with the Probation of the Will but was found in a photostatic copy of Charles County Wills , Book I, page I .

There is recorded an Inventory of John's estate,Personal and Real. I read, or tried to read it----found it so nearly illegible to my inexperienced eyes that I did not try to make a copy. I did, however, ~~[illegible]~~ decipher two items. "Land ,400acres , value 6000 pounds of tobacco. Also in this I recognized the word Vallance but whether it was meant to be his name or not I do not know. This Inventory was made and attested by John Nowell and Francis Posey Jr. Francis signed with his Mark. This inventory was not dated. It was probably about 1665. Francis could have been about twenty years old.

During the Summer of John's sickness and death there was a neighbor hood squabble in which the family name was mentioned, though not directly involved. Since it provides us with a bit of local color ---on the colonist farms , I will give it here,as nearly as it was or is possible for me to copy it. It is taken from Md. Historical Society Re-print, Vol. 53 , page 379. County Court Proceedings , date July 29 , 1663. The re-print is without any editing or corrections. Case styled

Richard & Mary Dodd
Vs.
John & Joan Nevill
(I quote only one Witness)

" Mary Roe , who deposed the following ; Sworn and examined in open Court, sayth that Mary Dodd come into goodie nevil's field and goodie neville sayd : thow iade (jade), get thow out out of my ground for what business hast thow heare " She sayed "I am in the path, I will go when I please" and goodi goodie neville sayed "If thow wilt not get thee out of my ground I will set thee out and with that goodie neville followe her and goodie Dodd turned and sayed stand off from me or I will stricke thee, and with that goodie Dodd did strike her in the face and goodie neville did say thow iade dast thow stricke me on my own ground. and with that goodie neville took hold of goodie dodd's hands and goodie dodd sayed let my hands goe,for the child it will fall and goodie neville sayed dont fear woman I wont hurt thy child and with that goodie neville called sumbodie to tacke the child out of her arms and robert cockerill thereupon came and goodie dodd sayed stand away I will not let goe my child and with that goodie neville struck her a blow in the chops and sayed by God you shall have one for the other and sayed thow iade I will have my revenge on they yet and mary dodd sayed goodie neville do not you threaten me for threatened foulks live long and goodie neville [illegible]

the chops and sayed by God you shall have one for the other and sayed thow iade I will have my revenge of thee yet an mary dodd sayed goodie neville dont you threaten me for threa ened foulkes live long and goodie neville sayed bauld eagel get the home and eat sum of gammer Belaine's fat porke an mary dodd sayed if she did eate fat porke she did not eat rammish boare and goodie dodd sayd cryed hee Trogge and goodie neville sayed thow whore who is it thow callest Trogg and goodie dodd sayed she was no Scotchman's whore and goodie neville sayed that neither Scotch, Irish nor English came amiss to her and with that goodie goodie dodd sayed to goodie neville cum will you go home with me and eat sum of gammer Belayne's fat porke if I have any and goodie neville spit at her and sayed she scorned to go with such companie as she was and with that mary dodd went away and goodie neville held up her hands and hallowed at her and further sayeth not ".

I did not find the judges summing up of the case, but Solomon himself would be hard-put to decide who got the better or the worst of the encounter. It looks like John's family must have been either very open handed with their Porke or else careless about storing it.

The last and a very interesting chapter concerning John's estate and its disposition centers on the Petition of John Mould, who married Francis Posey's daughter (John's stepdaughter). It is interesting because it gives the explanation of to some otherwise hazy points in the Record. Unfortunately I failed to set down the documentation of the Petition, but feel sure that it followed soon after on the pages of that so often quoted Re-print by the Md Historical Society's Volume 53...which is devoted so largely to Charles County records. I hope to have another look at the Record and supply this Vol and page number on some future visit to Maryland. This Petition is dated August 20th 1668. It is :-

"Petition of John Mould "

To ye Honourable Philip Calvert, Esquire, Chief Judge Testementary in the Province of Maryland.------The humble Petition of John Mould of Charles County Maryland , humbly showeth that ye petitioner marryed with ye daughter of Francis Posey late of Charles County, Md. Deced. , whose widow afterward afterward marryed with John Valliand , late of Charles County, deceased, who dyed possessed of 300 acres besides goods and chattels, who before his death made a Will &. bequeathed ye one half of his estate ,personal and real, unto his his wife and her two childroon she had by Francis Posey, to be equaly shared among them three and ye other half to his two children he had by his said wife afore ye death of ye said Vailland. Alexander Smith marryed with his widow and ye Petioner is informed hath ye origional Will of ye said Valliane (or T, I never could decide whether that last letter was an E or a T) soe that ye Petioner supposeth theire was never any administration of ye said estate, nor can ye petitioner have any

acct. of his shareof said estate in ye right of his wife. The premises being taken into your Honours serious consideration. ye Petitioner humbly beseecheth your Honour to issue out a Summons for ye said Alexander Smith to bring in ye ~~said~~ Will. aforsaid, & a just accounting of ye said ~~Wife~~ Estate to your Honour ; and that thereby ye Petitioner may know what his share of said estate is in right of his wife , and your Petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray"----------
The Judge,taking ye forgoing Petition into his serious consideration,ordered a Citation issued to ye said Alexander Smith to appear at St. Marys on ye 20th day of July next ensueing to exhibit ye aforsaid Will unto ye Office of Probate of Wills----------who returned ye same as appeared upon Record in ye Court of ye yeare 1664, Feb. 12th. Wherefore ye ~~K~~ ye Judge has dismissed ye said Alexander Smith without delay and ordered that John Mould,at whose instance he was Cited, have a copy of ye said Will ,if he so desire ; thereby to pursue his Right at law,if any such right he have ".

It will be noted that John's Will was already a matter of Record and that inventory by His Step-son(Francis Posey Jr. and John Nowell had been submitted. That there had been no division of the Estate was probably due to the youth of the children. Moulds wife could have hardly been more than 18, since Francis Jr. was the older-----old enough a year or two earlier to have joined in appraising and signing the inventory of his ~~fmx~~ step- father's Estate. The Mould Petition shows conclusively that John and Elizabeth had two children, His use of the plural "Childron" might have meant more than one two. It also makes clear that there are still two Posey children. The Mould petition petition also justifies the inference that "Nicholäuse" and John are still young,in her care....in 1668. There is no mention of John Jr. by name in the Record during his childhood. His first appearance is presumptive in 1672. A closer look into the Records of Charles and Saint Marys countys may show somthing more definite. Certainly there should be a record of his indenture to Mathew Elistcn in 1660 or 61. The presumptive John depends on the continuing use of the name John in connection with their farm. There is the "Grubbs - Holmes" tract "cornering on a redoak--- the Bound-tree of John Billaine" The absence of any qualication whatever to that phrase indicates to my mind that there is still a John around to keep alive and present the the use of his name ~~in~~ connection with the land. This record brings us to 1672 when John was 14 to 16 years old. ~~Shn-~~ Old enough to give continuity to the name of the farm in their neighborhood.

In speaking of the variations found in spelling the name Valliant and Vaillanty-the latter being the French spelling--- - I have mentioned the Sparks-Luis case as as showing the widest variations of spelling in any single case record. It was these that finaly convinced me that whatever the wierd spelling found in any record that, if used in connection with the name of the Frenchman Francis Posey, the other

Frenchman ,Jean Vaillant,John Valliant was meant xxx Had there been no other Record between 1650 and the trial of the Sparks Luis suit in 1679 and 80 , that one alone would have been enough to establish of the man with so many spellings of his name. The Sparks -Luis case was heard at St. Marys on Feb. 14 , 1679. It is recorded in "Judgements" ,Book W.C. ,page 216-7-8. In the index card files of the Md State Archives at Annapolis John's name is spelled Berlaine. In the origional Record,which I studied closely, I decided that the title spelling was ~~[illegible]~~ BERLANT. I showed this Record to Mr. Thomas,the Library archivist,who when asked what the last letter was, without hesitation said it was a T. I then showed him the name on the Index card with its final D. He at once said the copyist had made a mistake and pronounced the name ----B-e-r-laa-n-t . Of course this still unlike the spelling we know , but it does show that the family was beginning to sound the final letter -T- of their name in the English manner of pronouncing the word. ----------The Record on page 216 says :- " Surveyed for ffrancis POssey and John Berlaint. -----the Record on page 218 the names are spelled ffrancis Poessy and John Berlaind-----or that is what it looke like to me. The case was continued to the next session of Court,held the 11th of May 1680---recorded in the same book : "Judgments". pages 370 --371 and 372. On page 370 it is Francis Possey and John Berlaint, on page 371 it is "Formerly surveyed for Ffrancis Possey and John Verlant". On page ~~[illegible]~~ 372 it is again Francis Possey and John Berlaint". This land mentioned as in the suit as "Part of a tract of 450 acres surveyed for Francis Posey and John Berlaine ,Planters" (note ,formerly surveyed) must be a part of the origional survey described as Seven Hundred acres,more or less.....which leaves 250 acres unaccounted for. This suggests that I have not found all the records of their land transactions. There is still an other 150 acres of Posey land unaccounted for---land patented to Francis without mention of John :- the 100 acres by purchase and the 50 for the transportation into the Colony of Elizabeth. All this land lay in the same vicinity ; Wear's Creek , Neal's Creek,Posey's Creek and Swan's Point-----all small tidewater creeks.

There is still another Record indicating that John is the name of John Sr's other son---the brother of Nicholas. This is the index to the Rent Rolls of Charles County. I did not find the Rolls themselves but here is waht I copied from that index :-

Nicholas Belaines.....	page	93
John Belaines.....	"	119
Francis Posey	"	82
John Posey	"	93
Mary Posey	"	90

The fact that John follows Nicholas by some 26 pages in the record is another indication that he is younger of the two brothers . The appearance of a John Posey suggests that there is another Posey----the name is not uncommon. Maty Posey was probably the name of Francis' sister who married John Mould. The Index of the rent roll carries no dates,

though it covers the period I642 to I725.

Although the preceeding is the only direct reference to young John, his brother Nicholas appears several times. This could be because he is the elder . In the General Index to Land Records (Deeds &.) Book #2 , page 275--date I679 is the entry :"Nicholas Belaine to John Posey". In this General Index is also the lists for Provincial Court Judgments, In book W.C. Vellaine and Belaine appear in the years I678 & I679 on pages 7I-2-3 and ,I23 and 37I. In I680 on pages 2I6 and 2I8. Neither of these Volumes was available at the time I was in Annapolis. Before leaving Rent Rolls I might mention that I found a Charles County Rent Roll in the Library of Congress at Washington that gave still another John Burlain On page 82 of that roll. This must refer to earlier period than pages (O and above,it no doubt indicated John Sr. The Assistant Librarian of the Congressional Library told me that the complete Rent Rolls of Charles County were still in that County , but I did not have time to make a trip there to see them. I hope to see them later.

I have,qearlier, named Nicholas as the progenitor of our branch of the family. There are two considerations that point to this. The first is that in tracing descendants of John Jr they are all well indentified leaving no nich into which could be fitted several contemporary Valliants. The second is :- we are there all along in that second and third generation period, associated with the John branch in almost every way you can think of-----carrying on the names of Nicholas and John in different communities and at the same time....often spoken of, in the early eighteen hundreds, as "The Caroline Valliants" by members of the John branch. In pre-Revolutionary days it is doubtful if any such distinction was made, since heads of families could have been further than second cousin----third cousin at most. Of Nicholas in the Record we have first the Deed of gift of a Red Cow to Nicholause by Peter Carr in I662. Next in the Index to Land Records :titled : "Belaine,Nicholas to John Posey in Vol. #2 , page 275 in I679 ; next appearance in "Lands" book #2I, page 4I0 , date I682. This refers to a survey made by Randolph Brand,Deputy Surveyor for Charles County. I give this in full :

"To thecR't Hn'bl. The Lords Propri'ty : In reference to a Warrant from the Land Office bearing date of the seven and twentieth of April,last past,granted to Randolph Beard,Deputy Surveyor, for two hundred acres of land ...?.... are in humble manner to certifie that I Randolph Brand ,Deputy Surveyor for Charles County,under the Hon. Vivian Lowe, Surveyor General of this Province, by request to said Brand, have laid out for Nicholas Belayne of Charles County,Carpenter a certain tract of land, Belayne's Addition,to be held of Zachija Manor, adjoining land forlerly laid out for said Belayne,called Burlayne Hill,, beginning at a locust tree---run-

ning East 40 perches to a "Bounded" oak standing by a road--t the Bound-tree of John Cowet near the plantation of Richard Robinson ; thence s. 200 perches to a Bounded whyte oak, the Bounding-tree of John Posey-to Belaynd ; thence North to the first bounded tree, containing and laid out for 50 acres,more or less-----to be held of Zachaija Manor-----rent , 2 shilling

"Certified this, 29th day of April , 1682.
Randolph Brand, Deputy Surveyor.
Charles County.

Approved by me .
Vincent Lowe. "

Nicholas at this time is about 25 years old. This"Addition" is to lands probably his share of John and Elizabeths estate. There is nothing in the record to indicate whether Nicholas is married or not. Scarcity of women in the Colony made for late marriages of the men, and,for early marriage for the women. But adding to his land-holding suggests that if not married he is about to.. He did marry however, at some time preceeding 1687. This we know from the Record of Births that hav been preserved. The record is not a complete one so we do not know that the one one we have is that of a first child. This Rx is a compilation by Burns. It is from any and every source ,official,unofficial,both public and private Burns does not give the source furnishing the data for these births. This is the entry :-

"Born to Nicholas and Mary Belayne ;- Date.

Daughter, Jemima .....Not given
Elizabeth ..... Feb. 25 , 1688.

The only other record of births,that I found,in Charles Co. to persons of our "Family" is that :-

"Born,to Benjamine and Mary Posey ... Date

Daughter --- Susanna , ... June 6, 1691."

Benjamine was most probably a son of Francis Jr.

The record of the births of two daughters is the last record I have found concerning Nicholas. This is about two years after the first clear record concerning John . Meager though it is it is enough to establish him in our minds and to complete the picture of the Family as a continueing and going concern. In this connection I think it worth while to observe that John Sr. must have won the full affection and confidence of his step-son Francis Posey Jr. , since Francis named two of his sons for that Step-father. One son was named John and the ,or another, was named Belayne,----that is : Valliant Posey.

John Valliant Jr. now makes the first positive ,of a long succession of, appearances in the Record. I will give it in full----or as fully as I was able to decipher the origional Record. Many words and even phrases

were so dim or ill written that I cpuld not even guess at what they were. This is from Provincial Court Proceedings , Book D.S.& A. page 585. Court held at St. Maries. Before : JUSTICES ---Major Nicolas Howell , Colonel William Diggs and Colonel Henry Darnal. ---------- The Record :-

At a PROVINCIAL COURT held at the City of St. Maries the 30th day of Nov. 1686,being by writ of adjournment,adjourned from the 29th day of ye said month until ye said 30th. day , at at which day were present Justices Col. Henry Darnal, Col, William Diggs and Major Nicolas Howell. .....Came Mathew Elliston,Gent. and John Balliant , his servant,-------- ----indecipherable words ----- ----- absented himself from the 18th day of May, being Whitsun Wednesday,until ------- ------ ------- ---------(indecipherable) ------- ------ -------- and desired he might be judged according to Act of the Assembly. But the servant alleging that he was sent away ; it is ordered by the Court ------- ----- ---- --- ----- that --- --- --- appeared between this time and the expiration of his servitude. the Court will take the same into consideration ".

The above entry was at the top of the page. Following it were several other brief entries on different matters.....each a separate paragraph. Near the bottom of that same page is another paragraph entry in the same manner as those preceeding, which without preliminary, says :- " John Valiant,servant of Mathew Elliston, came into Court and, waiving all former allegations and does engage, if his master take no advantage according to Act of Assembly, he will serve the said Elliston or his assigns six years, which the said Elliston accepted. "

From the wording of the complaint , the plea and the aggreement it looks as John was nearing the end of his contracted service. I could find no Record showing the beginning of the Indenture or thee terms upon which it was made. Such contracts or "Indentures" were common in those days. I think that this one must have been one in which John was to receive in return for six years service, board,clothing,medical care and schooling. I read other contracts on the same terms I mention. Some of them included training in a handicraft. John's certainly must have included schooling..... it sounds like it might have included quit a bit of legal schooling.....conducting his own defense before the Court and later in life actualy serving others as attorney . The conduct of the case and its outcome shows a competence to handle his affairs that was sustained all through his life. In large measure this must have come through the training received during the time he "Served" Elliston. This service must have commenced when he was 20 to 22 years old. His brother Nicholas always signed documents with "His Mark" , as also did his half brother Francis, the same was true of his mother and father. So I think it was Mr. Elliston who provided,for an ambitious young man,the opportunity for acquiring some degree of an education. There is no record of

further disagreement between John and Elliston,so we suppose the service ended amicably. With this case the Record concerning John in St. Marys and Charles Countyes ends.....at least as far as I could find it.

John's next appearance in the Record is in Talbot County, on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. This comes a little more than five years later. On March the 4th. 1692 he signed the County Court Record as Clerk of Court. This is recorded in County Court Record of Talbot County , Vol A , page 240. This is evidence that his service to Mathew Elliston paid Off. Of the circumstances attending John's leaving St. Maries for the Eastern shore we can only surmise. Saint Maries and Charles were the first areas settled-----all the Eastern Shore was claimed by the Colony of Virginia. It had sent an armed force to maintain that claim at one time. Armed clashes occured on Tighlman's Island. After the fixing of a boundry line provided security;the more favorable agricultural land of the Eastern Shore no doubt attracted the non-Roman Catholic settlers in the Saint Maries area very strongly. Talbot became predominantly Protestant in religion. The Quakers soon set up a Meeting House near where Easton now stands. It is only reasonable that the strongly protestant Valliants should be drawn to that community. There was little difficulyy to be met in the moving . This bay separating the West Shore from the Eastern Shore could have been crossed in a rowboat. It is crossed by a bridge today. Having completed his Indenture contract it is but natural that new scenes and surroundings would to John seem to offer better opportunities. That he did not miscalculate his chances is shown in the fact that within three or four years of his moving there he becomes Clerk of Court. No mean achievment for a boy fatherless from age five or six.

By 1694 John is in trouble about his office as Clerk of Court. Some Valliant descendants have been inclined to glue together pages containing the record of this matter without looking into the situation that brought it about. It was a time of great political confusion in England and the impact of it was felt in the colonies. A reading of the whole record,study of the setting,the background to a period of transition, give the entire series of events concerning John an entirely different aspect. It was the period following the Accession of James II when Maryland became a Royal Colony instead of an enterprise of the Lord Proprietor(Lord Baltimore) The Colonist thought the Proprietorial Rights were at an end and manorial "Fees" or rentals were at an end. For quite a time none were paid Then the"Proprietors" Rights were restored. It was during this period when John became Clerk of Court,selected or elected by his neighbors where formerly all administrative officers were appointed by the Proprietor. There was trouble. plenty of trouble -----.

The Record is in Provincial Court Proceedings, Book D, page 300.----------

--------- "John Valliant, charged and gave bond for appearance to make answer. Bondsmen Michael Earl & Thomas Bruff ".---- His attorney had deamnded "Special Bail". This in I694 , but I omitted copying the date.

John's next appearance in the Record is in the same Case. It also is record .. .. Provincial Court Proceedings ; Book B. page 560 , date Feb. 28 , I695. The Record says :- "John Valliant of Talbot County,Committed to the custody of the Sheriff of AnnArundel County,on Feb. 28 , I695 ,in order to be conveyed before His Excelency,the Governor &. Council as to what shall be done against him".---------If His Excelency did against John anything at all I could find nothing of it in the Record. The case is brought up again in the following year. This is also in Provincial Court Proceedings, in Book H,D.-- page 368 , dateed April 30, I696. This says only:- ---------" John Valliant ,his Petition received and is reffered to Common Law ". Incidentaly I found this same text in Maryland Archives , Book I9 , page 368. Date May I2, I696. Just why it should be dated I2 days later there was no explanation------at least I found none. But the case comes up again in July following. It also is from Provincial Court Proceedings , Book H-D. page 607. date July 8,I696. The Record says :--------

------- "At a Court held July 8 , I696 , Upon the reading of the Responses of the Justices of Talbot County in answer to an Order of this Board,concerning the Records of that County Court wherein they certify the reasons why the Record which ought to have been up by Mr John Valliant and Mr Richard Macklin, was absolutely the neglect of such mercinary Clerks"---- -------- Ordered , that the Justices certifying thee ~~same~~ same, Viz. :- Captain James Murphy, Mr William Helmnsley, Mr. Richard Tilghman and Mr Robert Macklin, make answer to this ~~Board~~ Board what they mean by those words :- "Mercenary Clerks" ,and, Why they did not the same care as was taken by by the County Justices at a Court held for the said County the 25th of September,last as by this Return also here read and approved of,doth appear ".----------I would join the Board in asking what the County Justices meant by Mercenary Clerks. I found nothing of an explanation recorded. From what we know of the political situation when John and Mr. Macklin took over , I would say they became clerks after being chosen by an authority(a Committee) Of citizens) in the transition period, that was not recognized by the Proprietors---especialy after the restoration of his Proprietorial Rights to reantals. Pay based on a percentage of fees collected would or might be called "Mercenary".

The case is continued in I696. But this is in different authority.....The Council of Maryland. This Proceedings of the Council of Maryland ~~is~~ is for the years I69% --I697. Vol. H-D. pages 386 & 387. The day-and-month date of of the following entry in the Record was not given. It may have been later in I696. Here is the Record:--------

--------"" Captain William Dent, His Majesty's Solicitor General,made motion in Court, on behalf of His Majesty, that John Valliant, who was now brought here in custody of the Sherrif, did detain in his hands the Records of Talbot County Clerk , being a person not qualified to act as clerk, neither by Commission from the Honourable Sir Thomas ,Baronet, Secretary, nor other legal authority, as also keeps the Book of Fees and puts them into private hands to receive. Therefore, prayed that for the same and other illegal matters he had to bring against him,the said John Valliant,might be committed to the custody of the Sherrif of Talbot County,there to remain until he shall thence be delivered by due process of law. And, further Ordered, that the said Sherrif take into his possession the several Record Books of fees and all manner of papers and writings belonging to the said County Court ; and make a list of the same and search the said Valliants house ,or other suspected places where he supposes any such books or writings may be lodged , and deliver the said several books and papers unto the Clerk by Order now to be Commissioned. And,whereas, information has been made by Robert Mason Esq. , ~~[illegible]~~ of Sir Thomas Lawson,Baronet, Secretary, that Mr. John Salter of Talbot County,aforsaid,has taken upon him to ~~[illegible]~~ collect several of the aforsaid fees and has already received several sums of tobacco,thereby accruing, and, that several other persons have,bythe said Valliant , been employed in the like nature,to the great damage of the Said Sir Thomas. Therefore, prayed redress therein. ----------Ordered likewise thereupon,the said Sherrif give public notice and forewarn all persons within the County from either paying any of the said Fees to Valliant or receiving thereof for the said Valliant's use ; but that allthe aforementioned fees be collected by the Sherrif and that he call the said Salter to acct. & answer and pay the whole tobacco he shall collect unto the said Robert Mason Esquire, Attorney for Sir Thomas Laurance as aforsaid. "---------- ----and, further the record sayeth not.

In summing up the case for John I would point out that he is charged with having County Records in his possession; refusing to surrender them, appointing his own deputies ~~[illegible]~~ , refusing to account for fees collected and acting as Clerk without having been appointed by the Lord Proprieto's Deputy . The answer to all these must be found in the fact that there was a lapse in the exercise of the Proprietorial authority, when the question of becoming a Royal Colony was being agitated. The religious issue was being agrivated------Eastern Shore becoming anti-Roman Catholic---- and, we would call it , a growing disposition among the settlers to take managment of local affairs in their own hands. During these unsettled times John appears on the Eastern Shore.....this is prior to 1692 , that being the year when he first appears as Clerk (County). We must assume that he had been among those people a year or two before they make him Clerk-----a thing he could not do himself. To show the atmosphere in which this took place, I will

give here a page from Maryland History to make clear how the times they were going through opened the door for John's entry into public life was made easy and how it got him out------ though he remained Out for only a short period. I think all we Valliants should take a bit of Maryland History---our "Fatherland". This is from the School History (Md) -------

----------"In the years immediately preceeding the death of Cecil Calvert, ~~xxxxx~~ the Lord Proprietor in 1675, the boundry line between Maryland and Virginia on the Eastern Shore was run , and the long difference with Virginia settled ; though at loss of some territory to Maryland. Settlement down the Eastern Shore followed and Talbot.Dorchester and Somerset were made Separate Counties---(succeeding Dorchester).

"Charles, son of Cecil..Lord Calvert, followed his father, at his death.----and in the same year made war, jointly on the Susquehannock Indians , who, forced to an alliance with the Iroquoise, continued to make incursions into Maryland."

" In 1680 a disturbance arose, headed by Fendall and a renegade Anglican clergyman, John Coode. It failed and Fendall was banished , but the discontent increased-----and the "Popish Plot" in England, with the fear shown there for the overthrow of the Protestant rreligion found reflection in ~~xxx~~ Maryland , in the suspicion felt by many toward the Roman Catholic Proprietary,------which included the old suspicion felt for collusion between Maryland and Canadian Roman Catholics------and the ~~xxxxxxxx~~ effort or insistance made by the two S.J. (Jesuit) Missionaries who had come with the first Colonist, that they be obligated only to the Canon Law." (That is not subject to Civil Law-JLVO .

"When James the Second became King he talked of having the Maryland Charter forfeited as part of his general Policyx of Colonial administration. The Proprietary position was weakened by the unfortunate killing of an obnoxioue Revenue officer by a hot headed relative of Lord Baltimore, Colonel George Talbot. In 1684 Baltimore went to England to look after affairs there ; leaving the Council in charge, in Maryland. Four years later , in 1688, he sent out to act as Executive a conceited and wordy lawyer, who was a strong partizan of King James---and, who had high notions of PREROGATIVE. Indian troubles occured. Rumors arose of strange alliances between the Roman Catholics in Maryland and those in Canada."

"The Messenger sent by Lord Baltimore to order the (publishing) Accession Proclamation of William and Mary, died on the way, and the Council refused to proclaim the the new Soverign without orders from the Proprietary. In July , 1689 Nehimiah Blackstone ,Collector of Royal Customs, and an enemy of Lord Baltimore, rose in Revolt , together with Coode and other Protestants, The agitators were so determined and Lord Baltimore's supporters so lukewarm

that their Protestant Association was in supreme controle within a month , and the Proprietary Government was overthrown. The new Rulers asked the Crown to administer Maryland as a Royal Province, and their request was granted. The first Royal Governor coming in 1692.-(John is already Clerk , put in office by the Associationist,we must assume,JLV) The Charter was not forfeited however, and the title to land and and other Private Rights were left to Lord Baltimore. -------(it was and end of these Rights of the Proprietor,Baltimore, that the colonist had been seeking and no doubt thought they had achieved in their "Revolt" ,led by Blackstone.JLV.)

The new Royal Governor brought a greater regularity and formality into proceedings of the Government. There came the development of a highly trained and able body of lawyers who gave Maryland 's Bar its earliest renown. Then came also the organization of the first Eastern Shore Presbyterian Church and taxes to support the Anglican Church. And, Annapolis was made the Capital-------the first town of any consequence.

When the Colony got Royal rule, Baltimore had an Agent in the Colony whose sole business was to watch that the Government did not encroach on his private affairs and interests." ---------- (Sir Thomas Lawrence was such an Agent. JLV.)

If the complaint agains John ever settled in Court I could find no record of it. All that came of it was that he was replaced by a Clerk appointed by the new administrative Council.....after the restoration of "Greater regularity and Formality" by the new Royal Governor. Nor does this expulsion from office seem to have prejudiced John in the eyes of his neighbors. I even found a document recorded a year or so later that was signed by John Valliant as Clerk.

From 1697 on he appears frequently in the Record as Agent,Attorney of Talbot County people. They seem not to hav shared the concern of the "Proprietor's "Agent" over John's having exceeded his powers or failure to make returns.

Continuing ,now , with the Record. ---------- From :- Acts of the Assembly for period "1700 to 1704" page 165. --- date May 8. In Court , John is Attorney of Record in the case of a lost Deed.-------"Dorothy Stevens,widow of John Stevens, Decd. of Dorchester County, in the matter of a [redacted] tract of land called Willmore's Range in Talbot County,on the South side of Chester River , on a branch called Vincorne branch---- of 1000 acres----and that said vendor,Simon Willmore and his wifeRebecca, by John Valliant,her(Dorothy Stevens) attorney, asking that the Court of Talbot County reinstate the Deed of Sale,which had been lost before being recorded ". ---------The Court ruled confirmation of Dorothy Stevens' title.

In Talbot Land Records , Book 9 , page135. date 1702. John is Attorney for Mary Turner and her brother Thomas in a Deed of Sale. This deed is witnessed by John and Mary Valliant -------This is the first appearance of Mary in the Record,that

I found. Collateral record-evidence shows that she and John were married in 1694 or 95. Mary was the daughter of Henry Frith who settled on Miles River (now called Saint Michael's River) near present Royal Oak , in the year 1664.

In the August term of the Provincial Court of 1704 John was allowed a claim for ---"Keeping a poor ,distressed woman named Hannah Crosser-------"For her keep , 300 lbs of tobacco. for her clothing ,300lbs. of tobacco. For services done, 300 lbs. of tobacco. The claim was approved Nov. 21 , 1704. This record was found in an old Minute Book,having no numbered pages, in the Records Room of the Court house at Easton, the County Seat of Talbot County.

In June ,1706 John was Witness to a Land Mortgage,given by Taylor to Grubbs. Land Book(Talbot)#10 , page 7.

On November 7th. 1706 John witnessed the Deed of Sale of Higgins to Goodson. Land Mark Records, Book 10 ,page 66.

On June 12, 1607, John was given Power of Attorney for Francis Wilson, and the writ signed and recorded. --Testamentary Proceedings(Talbot) Book II , page 6.

On March 24 , 1704 John witnessed the Deed of Sale by John and Sarah Berry. Talbot Land Records. Lib. RF. Book 9 , page 305.

On June 23rd. 1704 , John signed as Clerk of the Court,the Deposition of several Witnesses to a Deed of Sale--Brown to Hinsley, of the Ritch Farm,on the North side of Choptank River and Hirgo Creek. Lib RF , Book 9 ,page 334 , Talbot Land Records.

In 1702 (the exact date lost) John was Attorney for Mary Tucker,transfer of land.---Talbot Land Book ,Deeds, # 9 page 136.

In the October , 1701 session of Court , John was one of the Appraisers appointed by the Court to appraise the Inventory of the Estate of Lawrence Knowls. Testamentary Proceedings, Volume 19, page 14.

On Oct 12 , 1701 John signed the Security Bond (with Joseph Tompkins) of Thomas Hopkins(appointed by the Court) as Administrator of the Estate of Thomas Ball.---Testamentary Proceedings. Vol. 19 , page 20.

In October 1704 John and Edward Robinson were appointed Sureties on the Bond of -- ? -- Monklon,appointd by the Court to administer the Estate ofJohn Lowin. - Testamentary Proceedings , Vol. 20 , page 79.

On April 27. 1708 John signed as Surety the Bond of

Hannah Neal Administratrix. ---from Testamentary Proceedings--
Vol. , f 21 page ? .

The next appearance of John in the Record I did not get the documentation on because at that moment came closing time and then Clerks have a good excuse to get rid of folks puttering in their domain-------However I had the text. It records that :-....."John Valliant asked the Court for and was granted Citations for several persons(names were given) to appear and :- "Answer to this Account."

On May 23 , 1708 , John witnessed the Will of Ed. Leeds of Talboy County. Virginia Callender of Wills,Vol. 3, P.127. In Library of Congress.

On March 16, 1708 John received the Deed to a parcel of land. It will be remembered that with the arrival of a certain lawyer in the Colony, Maryland Legalism took a spurt and later set the standard and fashion of legal forms and proceedures in the Colonies. This Deed,Benstead to Valliant is a shining example of that stilted legal jargon. This is IT.

"William Benstead
& to John Valliant.
Mary Benstead

"This Indenture,made the 15th day of March in the 6th year of the reign of our Soverign Lady,Ann,by the Grace of God,of Great Britain,France and Irland,Queen; Defender of the Faith &c.; and in the year of Our Lord Christ 1708 , between William Benstead of Talbot County,and Mary, his wife , of the one part and John Valliant of the same C County and Province on the other part, Witnesseth , that the said William Benstead and Mary his wife, for and in consideration of the sum of ten Pounds Sterling money of England already in hand paid,or otherwise secured to be paid,the receipt whereof the said William Benstead and Mary,his wife , do hereby acknowledge and confess themselves to be fully satisfied,contented and paid and do hereby acquit,emonerate and discharge the said John Valliant,his heirs and assigns foreverfrom any part or parcel thereof,have given,granted,bargai bargained,sold, aliened ,enfeoffed and confirmed,and, by these presents do give,grant,bargain,sell,alien, enfeoffe and confirm unto the said John Valliant,his heirs and assigns, forever, all that parcel of land called "Widow's Lott", lying and being on Talbot County on the North side of Choptank River and on the fork branch of Kings Creek and adjoining on a parcel of land called "Brown's Lott" and "Cook's Land", containing by estimation,65 acres more or less, and butted and bounded according to Patents ; reccurse being y thereunto had as may more at large appear ; together with all rights and [illegible] benefits thereuto belonging and all and singular appurtinances to the same or in any way pertaining,to have and to hold,the aforsaid parcells of land

and every(one) of their appurtinances ~~hereunto~~ before ~~to~~ by these presents bargained and sold or hereby intended to be bargained and sold to him,the said John Valliant,his heirs and assigns forever. And the said William Benstead and Mary his his wife,for themselves,their heirs,exectturs, administrators, do hereby covenant, guant and agree to and with the said John Valliant,his heirs and assigns, the aforsaid parcels of land and all other of the aforebargained premises and every part and ~~parcel~~ parcel thereof to the said John Valliant,his heirs and assigns, against all other persons whatsoever, shall and will hereafter warrant and by these presents forever defend. The rents and services hereafter due and accustomed to be paid to the Chief Lord only to be excepted and fore prized. And further, the said William Benstead and Mary his wife,their heirs and assigns shall and will from time to time and at all times hereafter at the reasonable request and at the proper cost and charges in the law, of him,the said John Valliant,his heirs and assigns to make,acknowledge and execute all such further conveyance as and assurances inthe law whatsoever for the better assuring and sure making of all and singular,the above granted premises.

"In witness whereof the said William Benstead and Mary his wife, have hereunto sett their ~~hands~~ hands and affixed their seals the day and year first above mentioned."

S WILLIAM BENSTEAD (seal)

MARY E. BENSTEAD ,(seal

Signed, sealed and delivered in the presence of

JAMES KNOWLES ".

On the back of the foregoing document is the following endorsment : Talbot ss : March 16 , 1708. Then came into open Court the within mentioned William Benstead and Mary his wife, in their proper person and then and there before Mathew Tilghman Ward,Gent. and his associate Justices of our Court did acknowledge the within mentioned Deed and the lands and premises therein contained unto John Valliant as that which the said John Valliant hath of the gifts of them,the said William Benstead and Mary his wife to him,the said John Valliant and his assigns forever. She,the said Mary being first privately examined as by law in that case direcos." Ct. Ateste. "

By Robert Finley
Clerk,Circuit Court,Talbot County"

From Libr. RF. No II page 70 Land Records.

When I read the above Record I recognized that it was the origional entry of which a certified copy had been made and sent Cozin Elese Brown Lane of San Antonia and which she had sent me-----saving me one tedious job of decipher-

ing that mazes of repetitious Legal verbosity. The copy had been furnished Cosin Elise by the Clerk of Court. The following is is the certification,bearing the Seal of the State of Maryland.

"State of Maryland,Talbot County, TO WIT :

I hereby certify that the forgoing is truly taken ~~xxxx~~ and copied from Liber RF. No. II , Folio 70. one one of the Land Record Books of Talboy County.

In Testemony WHereof , I hereunto subscribe my name and affix the Seal of the Circuit Court for Talbot County,at Easton, on this ,the 20th day of July

*
***
*****
Seal
*****
***
*

_____ Faulkner

Clerk of the Circuit Court,Talbot Co.

The above Deed ,and Track of land marks the first of a series of land purchases made by John. The total was between three and four hundred acres. The lands held before that seem to have been "In right of his wife", Mary ,daughter of Henry Frith. After my experience with the Benstead Deed I satisfied myself with copying only the Documentation of John's other land deals. I suspect that he constructed that Deed himself. For ten years pr more prececding he has been performing semi-legal services,appeared as Attorney ---------I have pointed out his self confidcnt defense when brought to Court by his "Master" Mathew Elliston. His bent for legal forms might go back to a time when his boyish imagination was stirred by hearing read that Deed of Gift to his brother"Nicholause" of a cow by"Peter Carr".

"Lands held in right of his wife" were located on the St Michaels River ,East of St Michaels. They were a part of Frithland,estate of Henry Frith who entered the Colony in late Sixteen-Sixtys. There is no record of John's Marriage to Mary. (at least I found none--------it will be remembered I mentioned that a number of Volumes of the Records were in the hands of the "Renovators" so not to be seen. I got my first note on Mary and Frithland from an article in "Monthly" the Journal of the Maryland Historical Society. The marriage took place about 1694. It was after the death of Mary's father. Mary does appear in the Record in 1710 when she signed as Witness the Will of John Dawson, July 31st. 1710. Recorded in Talbot WILLS , Vol,3 page 100. This is the second and last appearance I found in the Records- as John's Wife. The record does not say specifically that she is John's wife but the circumstances indicate it. There is no mention of her death in the Record but other records indicate she must have died in the 1710-11 period. I might mention that John Dawson was a neighbor and who later claimed that part of Frithland was his by Right. He did not indicate

that part of Frithland was his by right----he did not indicate on what he based his claim, or how much.

The Record does not show whether John ever occupied "Widow's Lott". It is situated about ten miles East of the then undreamed of County Seat, Easton.---between the upper and lower roads to Denton, County Seat of Caroline County. (Denton also had not-been-born at that time).

In the years that followed John acquired several farm properties, Of some of those I will give only the documentation ; but for those lying between Tred Avon river and Irish Creek I will give Deed and discription in full. ----------
---------- 1709, "Deed, to John Valliant frm. Ricd. Teddeman. -- Book II , page 116.
---------- 1712 , Sept 6; John Valliant from Thomas Spry. ---- Talbot Land Record ,page 510.
---------- 1712 Sept 8, "John Valliant to Thomas Spry." -- Talbot Land Record, page 510. (Note, Thomas Spry later married John's daughter, Elizabeth.

---------1713 ....., Deed to John Valliant from James Colestón and Robert Ungle, for a "Tract called CUMBERLAND--joining a tracts Eason's Addition , Horton's Addition and Cove Hall."-----(Note- Horton's Addition seems to have had another name :-"Torta Ventura". "Horton's Venture" may have been another interpretation of the name) The home of William H. Valliant Sr. stands Cove Hall land at Bellevue, most of Bellevue stands on Cove Hall. The home of William H. Valliant Jr. stands on Cumberland and Newnam Valliant's home stands on Eason's Addition. Allthree of these properties having narrow frontage on Tred Avon near the ferry crossing to Oxford from Bellevue. ---recorded in Book 12,, page 169.

----------1714 , Deed to John Valliant from Robert Ungle and Robert Grundy to : "Tract called Eaton's Addition and part of a tract called Lobb's Corner ,lying between Tred Avon Creek and Irish Creek.---Beginning at a Whyte Oak marked by marked by ten notches---3 & 3 and 2 & 2 , standing by a branch of Irish Creek called Roaring Branch, thence South 13 degrees Westerly 105 perches ; thence South-East 22 perches to part of said land sould to Peter Anderson, thence, with that line, North 46 degrees Easterly 171 perches ; thence North 34 degrees Westerly 89 perches; thence South 90 perches ; thence---------- indecipherable --- ---- ,containing and laid out for 83 acres", Eason's Addition and the "Part of Lobbs Corner" boyh face on Irish Creek. It was near this Bounded whyte-oa oak with the ten notches (3-3 and 222) that John and Mary built their home. The old burrying-ground where John is said to lie burried ,as are many other Valliants, is about 150 yards from the house. The house still stands--is apart of the present home of "Uncle Al and Aunt Bessie"Newnam. It like Topsy, just grew, in three sections, Localy it is known

as a "Telescope House".....its three units being similar in appearance but each addition,in line, being several feet higher than its older part. Each section or unit , a product of a different era in our history. The first unit , a story and a half.....with a very low ceiling , the second is full story-and-a-half high and the third a full two story. Uncle Al's maternal Grandmother was a Valliant . His collection of guns is worth a long journey to see. Besides being a farmer Uncle Al is a skilled wood-carver------he carves wooden decoy-ducks for hunters who flock to the Eastern-Shore creeks in crowds almost as thick as the ducks.--------he sent me a pair of decoys ----said he was setting me up in the duck business ; one being a gobbler and the other a hen, or whatever it is a lady duck and a gentleman duck is called. This pair were cut from the wood of a cedar tree that is said to mark the grave of John. (note, I speak of him as John but I shoulsd speak of him as John the Second or John II.) No stone marks his grave. Family tradition says he is buried there---the cedar his marker. It is a venerable cedar. I could not decide whether the house stands on Lobb's Corner or on Cumberland. Uncle Al was going to show me the stump of the ancient Bound-Tree marking the corner but we lacked the time. The house faces on Irish Creek; Roaring Branch is off to the East a short distance. The land lines of Cumberland on the surveyors plot show a contour resembling a bent bow and its string,but blunted at each end. John and family later lived in the house facing on Tred Avon, a quarter of a mile below the ferry. Tradition says it was built of brick brought in ships as ballast,from England. The bricks are smaller than present day bricks. The old house was torn down in I902 and the old brick were used to revet the shore in front of the house. The new house stands on the old foundations over the old cellar. It is the home of Newnam Valliant,the younger son of William H. Sr. I have two different views of theold house, photographed around I900. It was 200 years old when dismanteled. I said all the bricks from the old house were used in the shore revetment--but not quite, I brought one home with me to use as paper weight and amunition against over zealous solicitors. As John did not buy ~~Hardumhrmdx~~ Eason's Addition till I7I4 , the house built in I702 must have been built by Ungle.

John made one more purchase of land, this was in I7I7. Recorded in Talbot Land-Book # I2, page 3I9. Record says :- ---------"From Mary Severson(or Hudson) to J. Valliant,March 5th. I7I7. ---Deed to tract of land North of Choptank River on a creek called Irish Creek and adjoining a tract called Eason's Addition, situated and bounded as certificate and Patent thereof made and appears"

her
Signed Mary X Hudson "
Mark.

Since description of this last purchase is lacking,only a guess

only a guess at its location is possible. My guess is that it lay North of Irish creek,"North of Choptank River . Tred Avon river is seven oreight miles North of Choptank and Irish Creek is a Mile or so Noth of Tred Avon river. "Cumberland", "Lobbs Corner"and"Easons Addition " on the south side of Irish creek leave no room for the Severson tract to join Easons except on the North side of the creek. Later we learn that John did own and use land "Across the creek" even before this purchase. John is now nearing sixty years of age-----if he is not paying cash for all these land purchases it looks like a very ambitious program for a man his age-------unless he and his son John are opperating as partners. Actualy a John Jr. does appear in some of these transactions,although that could mean himself ; he being John Jr. In one index John and John Jr.' both appear in the same transaction. It is a puzzler. "John Jr" also appears in Indexes to"Deeds" in the years 1714- 13 and-09.

We are now in the second decade of the eighteenth Century and other John Valliants begin to appear in the records, so it will be well to ear mark him , using the same identification he used ,that is John Valliant of Tred Avon. In my geneological table he is John Valliant II.I.,that is he is the second son of the First John,or John the Emmigrant.

Besides the transactions,Deeds and index references given above that relate to John 22-I There are other entrys in Indexes relating to him ; but the Records to which they refered ,that is,the Volumes, had been withdrawn from public use while being given a preservation processing. The Index entries for the unavailable Volumes are :---

1679,	John Valliant,Testamentary Proceedings,Vol				III-page		100.
1702,	"	"	"	"	19-A	"	14.
1701,	"	"	"	"	19-A	"	20.
1704,	"	"	"	"	20	"	79.
1722,	"	"	"	"	19-A	"	65.

There was nothing in the Index entry to indicate the nature of the matters recorded. All of them are Talbot County Records deposited in Maryland Archives in Annapolis.

Now back to John's wife, Mary Valliant,or Mary Frith Valliant, only twice in the Record that I have studied. In 1710 she witnessed the Will of her father's neighbor , John Dawson. Strangely enough , in this will John Dawson bequeathes to his brother James :- "All interest in Frithland on St Michaels Creek".------her childhood home. In another record Dawson refers to it as "That part of Frithland that ought to be mine." Mary Frith V. died,probably,around 1711-12. Soon after that John married again. His son John 31-21, says he married the Widow of Ralph Dawson,called her his "Mother-in-law" ---the custom in those days. The

date of the marriage is not recorded. Acording to Ralph's Will the widow's name was Mary. These widows present quite a problem :- there are three Dawson widows named Mary and the husbands of two of them are named RALPH. John Dawson,who died in I7I0 left a widow named Mary. (Talbot Wills, book M-C-Wpage I79. Ralphh Dawson died I708, widow named Mary (Talbot WILLS, Book M-C-W, page I25. and Ralph Dawson died I706 left widow named Mary, -(Talbot Wills, Book M.C.W. -page 77. I could find nothing to show which Ralph left a widow to Marry John. But which Ralph widow he married is not the only puzzler. John of Tred Avon died in I722 and in his will left the management of his estate to "My beloved wife Judieth. Did Mary Dawson Valliant die ,and Judieth take her place ; or did John have so many Marys in the family that they gave the new wife another name,Judieth. His first wife had been named Mary, his daughter was Mary and his brother Nicholas' wife was named Mary------giving the new wife another name for everyday use certainly would have simplified things.

So far I have said little about John's children(john of Tred Avon) I can not give them in the order of their birth. Only one of them is in the register of births---that one is at St Michaels in the Parish Register of Births.---Dorothy. The Parish birth-Records for the period I702 to I725 are lost. Seven children were born to John and Mary(Frith). I never found all of them listed in one Document. But appearance in various contemporary records gets them all. I think these omissions are probably due to mistakes made in copying the various documents.....making transcriptions. Also some texts are complete in one record and in another ,the main points only of that record. Here are the children : --

---Mary,Married John Weymouth
---Elizabeth,married Thomas Fry
---Dorothy, married Caleb Esgate;
Susannah , married Thomas Clift,Croft or Ashcroft.
Joseph,married Sarah Ray I74I,probably a second marriage.
James , never married. died at 32 in I73I
John ,also married a "Judieth",made the "Deposition in I765.
They all lived within a few miles of the home farm---with Ratcliff Manor to the East and Ferry Neck to the South-West.

The date of John's death is not recorded but he signed his Will on January I3th I72I. It was Probated on January I3th I722. This indicates his death as occuring in late 2I or early 22. The Will is recorded in Book A-D ,#2,page 229, in the Hall of Records, Annapolis. I found different versions of the Will in different Records,some being abbreviated. I give the full text. ----------

---------- Will of John Valliant------

"In the name of God , Amen. This the I3th day of Jan.

I62I ; I, John Valliant,of Tred Haven Creek,in Great Choptank River,in Talbot County,Maryland , being inperfect health of mind,Blessed be God,butnot of body,make this my Will and Last Testament :--

"Idesire my body to have Christian burial.

"I give to Mary Weymouth,the wife of John Weymouth, IOOO pounds of tobacco.

"I give to Dorothy Esgate,the wife of Caleb Esgate,the sum of the sum of IOOO pounds of tobacco.

"I give to Elizabeth Fry,the wife of Thomas Fry, IOOO pounds of tobacco.

"I give to my son John IOOO pounds of tobacco.

"I give to my son Joseph IOOO pounds of tobacco.

"Igive to my son James IOOO pounds of tobacco.

" I give to my daughter Susannah Valliant IOOO pounds of tobacc

"I give to my wife Judieth Valliant,lands I purchased of Mibore's heirs Executors , and of James Coleston and of Mary Severson,to be left for the good of the plantation without interuption of my heirs. And lastly, I do hereby constitute and appoint my well-beloved wife,Judieth Valliant, my whole and sole Executrix."

Signed ..... John Valliant

Seal-

Richard Allen
Witnesses Ann Brady
George Killenbeck ".

Recorded in Wills---Book A-D ,#4 , page 223

No stone marks the grave of John but tradition says he is burried in the old Valliant burrying ground beside Irish Creek. An ancient cedar tree marks his grave.

In "INVENTORIES, Vol K-I #9. page 35 is the Inventory of Estates. Estate of John Valliant, Inventory of all goods of Mr John Valliant of Talbot County,lately deceased, taken September 3rd. I722, equaled I97 pounds Sterling, 3 shillings and 9 pence. "

By William Skinner , John Oldham, Appraisers, Richard Altern,Creditor, and John and James Valliant,kinsmen. " ----Judieth Valliant,widow and Executor,late of Talbot County, Proves the within Inventory in Common Form and did exhibit the same the 9th of November, I722

Signed :- M. Howard, Testator. "

An additional Inventory was taken of John's Goods and

---NOTE--correction : In last paragraph and last clause on preceeding page (35)--should read :- "----Judieth Valliant,widow and Executor of John Valliant,late of Talbot County."------

Chattels on July 8th , I726. (Recorded in INVENTORIES, T*A#9; number II , page439.) This amounted to 54 Pounds,Sterling and 4 pence. It was taken by William Skinner and John Oldham. It was submitted by Edward Elliot before Commissioner, F. BOZMAN.

The next day following, an accounting of Administration is made to the same Commissioner. This Accounts-Record is one of the"Restored" origional Records. That means it had been well cleaned chemicaly,fading ink restored and the origonal sheet sandwiched between two transparent sheets of plastic material.------a marvulous rejuvination. Here it is :-
---

"ACCOUNTS ,Book #7, page 480. Date July 9th , I726.----"The Acct. of Edward Elliot,Gent. and Judieth his wife , lately called Judieth Valliant, Executx. of the last Will and Testament of John Valliant,late of Talbot County,Dec'd. The Accountants charge themselves with the deceased's Estate as specyfied in an inventory thereof,taken and returned into the Com'er's Office, appears to amount to I96 Pounds, I9 Shillings & 9 Pence, and likewise with more of the Goods and Chattels of the ~~Dec~~ Dec'd, as specyfied in an additional Inventory returned into the Comm'rs Office (which) appears to amount to 54 Pounds and 6 Pence, and humbly craves allowance for the several disbursments by them made out of said Estate, Viz. ----------

Funeral	5 Pounds		
Debts owed and paid--Approv.	I26I9	Lbs.	Tobacco.
Gift; John Valliant	I000	"	"
" ; Mary Weymouth	I000	"	"
" , Sussannah Valliant	I000	"	"
" , James Valliant	I000	"	"
"Dorothy Valliant	I000	"	"
Paid Commissioners.....	3I8	"	"
" Officers	I78	"	"
" Other Officers	I20	"	"
" Comm. Fees to Thomas Howard	I300	"	"
" Dept. Comm. Fees	50	"	"
.....			

Of Cash Paid :-
Paid this accountant drawing this account..... 5 Sh.
" " " stating this " 5 P.6 "

I2963 Lbs. tobaco at 9/6. ..... 54 Lbs. 0 9
5367 2" , " at Current price .....

Salary for collecting at I0%, ...,9 Pds.4 sh. 4 P.

Ballance due to said Estate ..... I28 Pounds, I0 Shg. 4 P.

July 9 , I726"

Then came Edward Elliott,the aforgoing accountant and Judieth his wife, and she, the said Judieth, made oath on the Holy Evangel of Almighty God that the foregoing account,to the best of her knowledge ~~xxxxxxxx~~ is just and true. Which,after due Examination is past by me. "

Thomas Bozman, Deputy Commissioner,
Talbot County.

Recorded in ACCOUNTS, Book #7 ,page 480. "

I may be noted that this accounting omits the name of Joseph and Elizabeth. Whether this is due to my fault in copying or some one else, I cant now say. It might have been that no payment was paid them,at this time, or possibly they were paid and accounted for another time and that accounting lost to us. They are still alive and frequently appear in the record.

This third marriage of Judieth (third if I am correct,that she was Ralph Dawson's widow,Mary,now ,for convenience , called Judieth. If she is not Ralph's Mary,then John,of Tred Avon himself was married three times. It should be noted that this marriage to Elliot (one of the leading citizens of the County) must have been acceptable all around.....there being no hint in the Record of friction in the settlement of the Estate. Eliott had a son and daughter who shared his Estate after his death. The son was Edward,Junio. He had both land and slaves.

I tried to arrive at the price of tobacco on the plantation ~~xxx~~ from the figures given in the inventory appraisal, but do not think I have added to my reputation as an accountant. We dot know the valueation of the three farms he leaves, nor if Debts paid was payment on or for them with the I26I9 Lbs. of tobacco. That left a disposable Estate of 23696 Lbs. of tobacco. Of which 5000(if not 7000) went to the children....the value approximately I00 Pounds Sterling, as the net value of his fluid estate. It would be hard to translate this into present day money.....in that time a shilling a day was counted good pay for a worker. The price of tobaco works out at about two cents a pound .....assuming that 9 S. 4 P. the hundred pound,on the plantation. Translated into present day money that means about twenty cents a pound. There is nothing to indicate ~~xxx~~ whether this is an accounting for one year or the total period of controle. Probably the latter. That would be about I60 Pounds income per year....multiplied by the greater Purchasing Power factor for Hard Money then.

I found no record that said final settlement of the estate which would have followed the death of Judieth.

We will see more about Judieth later,but right here a few interesting notes--based on the assumption that she is or was, the widow of Ralph Dawson. In his will Ralph makes her the Will's Executor,---(recorded in Wills- -,Book M-C-W , page I25)--with his brother John Dawson as co-Executor. This Will was signed January 4th , I708 . They(mary and Ralph) had four daughters ; Mabel.Sarah, Mary and Rachel. They must have been quite young. With the experience of Executor of Ralph's Estate Mary Judieth was well prepared for the responsibility as Executor of the Estate of John of Tred Avon. That she was a woman of outstanding personality is shown by her marriage,two or three years after John's death,to Edward Elliott, a leading citizen and Planter in the County. He is the donnor of the land on which the Saint Michael's Church was built----this was the Parish Church of all that area between the two rivers(St Michaels and Tred Avon) .Besides outliving Ralph,and John, she also outlived Elliott. She was probably much younger than John. It was the Will of Ralph's father,John Dawson,that was witnessed by John and Mary(Frith)Valliant-----Two years after Ralph's Will was recorded. It was this Will,witnessed by Mary Frith Valliant, in which John Dawson left to his brother James : "All(his) interest in "Frithland" on Saint Michael's River". Perhaps I should say here that there is no record in the Marriage Rolls of John and ~~Mary~~ Mary Judieth, but there is the sworn statment of John,jr. made in I765 that is clear and explicit authority for it.

In the twenty-five years following the death of John of Tred Avon nearly all the lands he had held were sold and the seller is John Jr. Some of these Deeds are signed by Judieth Valliant and some by John Valliant and his wife,Judieth as will be shown later. The purchaser of most of the land is Anthony LeCompt, which will appear as we go along.

A final note on the Will of John of Tred Avon. It appears in several different books of Record. The text varies as though abbreviated....or the work of a careless transcriber. Some leave off a son or daughter which another will include. You must read all of them to get all the children. James is the only son who appears in all the Records.

James room in the Record is small. After the entrys in the settlement of the Fathers Estate,James next appears in I730 when a Patent for a tract of land of 632 acres,called "Partner's Ramble"--(Certificate # 236, dated I730--in LAND RECORDS in Hall of Records at Annapolis) was issued to "James Valliant and Perry Benson". This tract later was called "Partnership". It was origionaly surveyed for them by Nicholas Benson in I728-----according to a Statment made by him in a Deposition made in I765-----recorded in JUDGMENTS Vol. D.D. , pages 7I6----Talbot County. Partnership was later re-surveyed and found to contain 720 acres. The final formalities confirming the Patent were not completed until after the death of James which took place in I732. James

made and signed his Will October , 2I , I732. It was Proved (probated) , November 8th. , I732. It is recorded in Talbot WILLS , Book H-B , page I47. It reads :-

I, James Valliant of Talbot County, sick and weak, ----?-- ----?--- "domake"----------the following is a summary of the will : "To my sister Elizabeth Spry, one Negro--to go to my cousin (probably his neice,VLV.) Elizabeth Spry after my sister's death.--or to my cousin Thomas Spry, joiner(or junior -----To my sister Mary Weymouth, IOOO pounds of tobacco. --- To my cooper, John Hopkins, I/2 of all my tools. Remainder :- to my brother John Valliant and his heirs &. to my brother Joseph Valliant and his heirs &. to my sister Dorothy Es-gate.

My two brothers, John and Joseph Valliant to be my Executors".

"Signed James Valliant.
Witnesses :- Richard Hopkins, Edward Halls, Sussanna Ashcroft".

James' name is in the Record but little more than half dozen times :- in connection with the Patent and surveying of "Partnership", in his Will, in his father's Will and and when brothers John and Joseph give Bond as his Executors. After James' death his brother John takes his place as the partner of Perry Benson in completing Patent formalities for "Partnership" This was completed in I733 when the Petition and complete survey notes were submitted to the Court. On the back of that document is the endorsment :- "Let Patent issue on the within Certificate. I have received caution for 58 acres for vacancy therein mentioned. "

Signed J. Ross.
April I2 , I733. "

Certificate, recorded in Talbot LANDS , book A-M, Pg, 275
Patent recorded Talbot LANDS, book P-L.# 8, page 774.

James' brother in law, Caleb Esgate, husband of his sister Dorothy, died the same year as James. (i732) Caleb's Will ~~xxxxxxxxxxx~~ gives , among other bequests, a farm "Part ofof Hopkins' Point to son Caleb ; but specifies :- son Caleb not to sell to Mathew Kirby or to any other except to some of the Hopkinses, Thomas Spry or John Weymouth". This suggests they were a bit clannish even in early days.

Joseph the brother of James and John Valliant, also gets short shift in the Record books. He is in his father's Will and the administration of it.....three times. Next he is named in his brother James' Will as beneficiary and as one of the executors. and again when he makes bond as one of James' executors. On March 20th I739 Joseph signed as witness ~~the~~ a Deed of Gift by Mathew Kirby of a Negro Baby to his daughter. (Talbot DEEDS, book I5 , page I.)

One record says that Joseph Valliant and Sarah Ray were married on Nov. I7 , 1741. but this must be an error(probably due to mistake in copying) it is wrong because the Record shows Sarah Valliant witnessed the Will of Thomas Spry ,her brother-inlaw , Jan I3th I74I. she and Joseph were most likely married Nov. I7 , I740. Unless Joseph married late in life this marriage to Sarah Ray was probably a second marriage. He could have been 40 or 4II in I740. Sarah again signed as witness(Sarah Valliant) in the adjudication of Thomas Spry's Will in I746. On April 6th. I743 Joseph was a witness before a Commission appointed to re-survey and make Boundry-Line settlement between John Love and James Bartlett, of lands described as "Joining on or with Ratcliff Manor bounding-mark on Boat Cove" . Three other witnesses in this matter were John Weymouth,Benjamine Weymouth and Thomas Spry. Of the four only Spry could sign his name. The other three signed with their "Mark" John Weymouth and Spry are Brothers-in-law. It seems the family is an authority on the Landmarks or Bounding marks of the vicinity. They make several such appearances. Ratcliff Manor was the estate of Robert Morris, the financial wizard of the Revolution. It is still a very considerable property,in acreage. One of its bounderies is the Tred Avon River (or creek).

Joseph left no Will but one of the two groups of brothers in the community must be his sons. They are :- Nicholas, John, James, Bennett and William.-----John names them as his brothers in making his Will.

Turning now to John,the brother of Joseph and James. His record is voluminous.,but he messed things up very considerably in managment of his affairs and then by making no Will when he died,or before he died. If he made a Will it was not recorded. He was born about I795 or 96.---according to his statment in his famous Deposition in I765. He appears as John Jr. in numerous records with his father in land transactions and in the Index to DEEDS. The first "Junior " appears in I709 and again in I713. This was in the purchase of lands from James Coleston(Cumberland) ----but of which John senior says in his Will "Lands that I bought of Mibore's Executors and James Coleston". Of course John Sr. might have been calling himself Junior since his father was commonly called john. In the Teddeman purchase no Junior appears. -----there is no Jr. on the Coleston Deed.---------. To identify this Son John we will call him John II. ----(there are several other Johns around and about-------

John II became partner of Perry Benson,following the death of James, in the handling of "Partnership" the 720 acre tract described as lying "On the West side of Third Haven(Tred Avon) Creek ". This could be in that area lying near the head of Irish Creek,West of but near Royal Oak. I did not copy its metes and bounds---too much of a job. It did "Corner" ,however, with "James' Outlock", belonging to

John Robson, a long-time friend of the family. An earlier Record(than "Partnership") In I727, on the first Tuesday in June, John II is summonsed as Juror in a case entitled :-"The Lords Proprietors Vrs. Ward & Moses Bently". The Talbot Courts at this time were held at "Pitts,his Bridge" ,which being interpreted means Pitt's Bridge. Another example of the far-cry between between the written and spoken English of that day.and the written and spoken English of today.

In I728 , on June.I5 John II signed a Deed of Mortgage to Edward Harris. (Index to Talbot Land Records,page 5I0.) I could find no details concerning this record.

In I732 ,on May 2nd. John II made a Deed or Mortgage to John Lockerman,Woolman Gibson,John Carriscake and John Wrightson. (Talbot LAND index-page 255) Whether this means a mortgage to them Jointly or separately could not be deyermined-----I could not find the Record to which the Index referred.

In I734 "John Valliant,et al. " sold a tract of land xlax to John Robson,the owner of"James' Outlook", (Talbot DEEDS ,book I4 , page 53)is all I have on that.

In I732, on November 30th."John Valliant(II) received a Mortgage Deed or Gift from Thomas Spry (his brother-in-law) Note-- I am indebted to Cozin Elise B. Lane for several of the above "Index" memorandums, I may yet have a chance or another chance to find the details of the transactions to which they relate.

In I736,on April I6,"John Valliant (II) appointed Administrator of the Estate of Thomas Tennant, under a bond of 80 POunds,current money,"--------"Sureities: William Bennett and Richard Aldern". (Talbot MINUTES &. BONDS I736 to I740,page 29.

In I736, on August 5th John Valliant (II) and Judieth, his wife sold to Perry Benson:- "A Tract,72 acres, out of "Partnership"--cornering at a small pine tree on the South side ofthe Plantation of Robert Newcomb", The price :- Thirty shillings,Stirling money of Great Britain and 500 pounds of tobacco". The sale recorded in Talbot LAND DEEDS, book T-B ,page I74.

In I737, on November 20th John Valliant(II) and Jacob Brumwell were signed as Sureties on the Bond , 500 Pounds-Sterling, of Katherine Bennett". (Talbot MINUTES & BONDS-- I736 to I740 ,page 50.) Note should read"Katherine Bennett,Admin ministratrix"---- Of the Estae of William Bennett". An interesting not here is that in I728 "William Bennett ordered to keep the Ferry over Third Haven creek from Oxford to William Bennett's house". (Talbot PROVINCIAL COURT. Nov. 27, I728) This ferry is opperated today by a Newnam , a descendant of a Valliant daughter.-----Oxford to Bellevue----- landing there at a dock alongside the Valliant cannery in Bellevue. Another footnote to local history I like is this :- It concerns Cozin Varda Valliant Robinson who i of the Thomas Rigby Valliant branch of the family,whose family

I went to California so long ago that she had lost all contacts with the Eastern Shore folks,knew none of their names or where they lived ; this notwithstanding the fact that they still kept alive in their family the name Thomas Rigby Valliant ----that being the name of her brother,who died several years ago in San Jose. His family stilllives there. Cozin Varda's husband , J.D. Robinson was born at Easton,the present County-Seat of Talbot County,but his family left there when he was a small child. A year or so before his death (in 1952) he and Cozin Varda made a trip "Back East". He decided to visit his [illegible] country roundabout. They came up t[illegible] and on to Oxford. At Oxford they took the ferry to Bellevue,talked with the ferryman----but never mentioned the fact that his wife was a Valliant with far-away kinsmen in Maryland. So , without knowing it Cozin Varda visits the fountain-head of her family---passing them on both left and right in Oxford and Bellevue,besides some of them in every town and village,almost. After this "Story" gets around I hope that more Valliants will be looking for other Valliants to say Hello to-----or maybe borroww a little money from. They are pretty easy . I know because I did just that. I wont say how much, but , I am sure it can be done.

Now back John Jr. On April the IIth, 1739 John (Jr.) Valliant was appointed to be the Administrator of the Estate of Thomas Pamphilian. No sureties were named although the Bond required was $000 Pounds Sterling . (recorded in Talbot BONDS book 1736 to 1740 , page 66 .) Then in 1740 the Court ordered that additional Bond to the amount of 200 Pounds Sterling be given. The Bondsmen for this amount are named.-----Richard Alben,Nathanial Grace,John Valliant and George Collison. (recorded in the same book as above but on page93 . Here we have two Johns at the same time. John the Administrator and John the Bondsman. Since one may not be his own Bondsman-except by cash or mortgage,which is not indicated, we must consider that two Johns are concerned. They are probably cousins.-----grand-sons of Jean ,the Immigrant---sons of John of Tred Avon and of Nicholas.

Before going further with John Jr. there is more of his business relations with Judieth,his step-Mother(or as they said it "Mother-in-law-----which she was in fact.) and with her sometimes,Judieth,John Jr's---- wife. One Judieth is certainly the widow of John of Tred Avon,who though married to Edward Elliott,probably by 1725, may have continued to sign herself Judieth Valliant in matters concerning administration of the Estate of her late husband. But this does not solve all the puzzles posed by the two Judieths. They both appear in the Record----the origional Record,no copying here on opposite pages,or facing pages. It is the record of a land tr[illegible]er This is a Deed to a "part of Partnership" and the Deed is signed John Valliant and Judieth,his wife" The tract is described as usual in such cases--then the

following page the proceeding page description is repeated exactly and is signed by"Judieth Valliant, Exectx".

In I740 John in associat..on with Perry Benson in "Partnership" Sell and make a Deed to part of it. This was signed Mar. 7th and is recorded in LAND RECORDS ,book I5 page 29. (I have a memorandum taken from the Index that says :page I69---but that might have refferod to book of DEEDS.) The Record :-- "---------- We the said Perry Benson and John Valliant did convey this same parcel of land to Mathew Kirby,father of the said Benjamine Kirby, bearing date of of April 2I,I738 as may appear by the Record,butnot in time, ye ,the said Perry Benson & John Valliant ,for and in consideration of the sum of i4 Pounds current money of this Province,paid by said Mathew Kirby,father of Benjamine Kirby, before the executing of these presents---acknowledge ---7. ----&. ---------,do confirmand requite -&.- -&.- ---all claims for ourselves, ---&.--- --&,-- ---- to Him, Benjamine Kirby : a parcel of land ,being part of a tract of land called "Partnership" lying between St. Michaels River and Thread (?) Creek in Talbot County-----beginning at a Bounded Red-Oak ,being ye second Bounded-Tree of a tract of land called "Swamp Hole" and running from thence North-West I60 perches with Ratcliff Manor....thence North-East I60 perches with ye tract of land(I.E. Ratcliff Manor. JLW.) to a tract of land called "Morlain's Chance" ---thence North-West 56 percheswith Morlain's Chance to a tract called "Brantree----thenc with Brantree South-East I30 Perches, then South East I04 perches the corner of a tract of land called called "Maxwell Moore" ---and with Maxwell Moore , South-East IiO perches to the lands of "Swamp Hole" then in a straight line to the first mentionedRead Oak. ---65 acres "

Witnesses :- Edward Nedel and W. Thomas.

Signed Perry Benson
John Valliant.

"Partnership is going pretty fast. Another sale recorded April Ist , I742, In Book # I5 , page I79. Icorrection--LANDS , book I5 page I78) . In this ;with all the whereases, aforsaids and thereunto appertainings , "Perry Benson and John Valliant convey to Christopher Spry,for the sum of Ten Pounds current money of the Province of Maryland ,---&--more Saids and Aforsaids ------- confirm unto said Christopher Spry,his Heirs,Assigns forever ; a Parcel of land being part of a tract of land called "Partnership"---lying between St. Michael's River and " THIRDHAVEN Creek------beginning at a Locust ~~post~~ post near the plantation formerly in the possession of John Robson,land called "James Lookout" , as,also, the beginning of Partnership,aforsaid,--and runs from said Post with the line of said Robson's part of Partnership : North 25° West I00 perches to the corner

thereof---then North 25° East 65 perches to the corner of Bainbr tree , then with said land, North-East 14 perches to the lands of Kirby, then with said lands South East 108 perches to the corner of "Maxwell Moore", then with that line 104 perches to Robson's land and with said land to point of beginning"; ----- 54 acres"

Witnesses : John Sutton
Tom Armstrong.

Signed ---Perry Benson
John Valliant

There is an earlier sale by John and Judieth to Perry Benson dated August 5th 1736----recorded in LANDS, book T*B, page number 14 , page 174 , in which "John Valliant and Judieth his wife Deed to Perry Benson, "78 acres out of Partnership---cornering at a small pine tree on the South-East side of the plantation in possession of Robert Newcomb--- Price :500 pounds of tobacco and thirty shillings Sterling money of Great Britain".

In 1743 John sold to Perry Benson the last of his interest in Partnership by Deed dated May 1st and recorded in LANDS, Vol.T*B, book 15, pages 343-44-45. It is all done with usual legal circumlocution. ---------- --- ; --"Between John Valliant,planter and Judieth ,his wife-- of Talbot County, Maryland. ---- ---- ------whereas, Charles,Absolute Lord and Proprietary of the Province of Maryland & Avalon ; Lord,Baron Baltimore, and heretofore by his Letters Patent,bearing date of the 10th of October,which was in the year of Our Lord God 1733,grant unto the said Perry Benson and John Valliant,their heirs and assigns forever, all that tract and parcel of land called PARTNERSHIP,lying and being in Talbot County on the South side of St. Michaels River and the North side of Tredhaven Creek,containing and laid out to contain 740 acres,more or less----------now this Indenture witneseth that the said John Valliant and Judieth, his wife as well, for and in consideration of the sum of 600 pounds of tobacco to them in hand paid by the said Perry Benson before the executing of these presents, the receipt whereof they do acknowledge and confess,and for divers other good causes and valueble considerations,them thereunto especialy moving,have given,granted, remissed and forever quitclaimed, ------&, --&&, --------&, ---- to Perry Benson, &, ---&,---- &,------all claim in or to that tract or parcel of land called Partnership as above described ".

"Witnesses---John Hicks
Wm, West
Robert Newcomb.

Signed -- John Valliant
her
Judieth X Valliant
Mark

Note --- this sale must have followed on a conversation with Perry that John remembered and referred to in his Deposition made in 1769.
John is fast loosing his hold on the family lands.

The next appearance of John in the Record is to complete apparently, the disposal of his father's farm holdings. This in 1742--September 3rd. It is recorded in LaNDS record-T.-B. , book I5 , pages 221-24. Titled :- John &. Judieth Valliant to Anthony LeCompte ,Talbot County. The Record:- ---------- "Upon the 14th day of September, Anno Dommini, seventeen hundred and forty-two, came Anthony LeCompte of Talboy County, Gent. and brought a Deed of Bargain and Sale with two endorsments thereon and prayed to have same Deed and Endorsments thereon enrolled amongst the Records of Talboy County. And, upon the same day, the same Deed and Indorsments thereon were accordingly enrolled amongst the Records of Talbot County aforsaid, as follows ----Viz. :- This Indenture made this Third day of September, 1742, between John Valliant of Talbot County in the Province of Maryland, carpenter, and Judieth his wife, of the One part and Anthony LeCompte of the same County and Province, of the Other part, witneseth :- that the said John Valliant and Judieth his wife for and in consideration of 52 Pounds, current money to them in hand paid before the ensealing and delivery of these Presents by the said Anthony LeCompte, the receiptthey hereby acknowledge and confess, and themselves to be therewith fully [illegible] paid, contented and satisfied thereof and every part and parcel thereof they do hereby exonerate, acquit and discharge the said Anthony LeCompte, his executors &. Administrator forever, by these presents have given, granted, bargained, sold, eliend, enfeoffed and confirmed---&-- --&-- ---&--- they, John and Judieth Valliantand heirs forever, give all ---- ------ --- &. ---that part of a tract of land called Eafon's (Eason's) addition and also that part of a tract of land called Lobb's Corner, lying in Talbot County between Thread Haven Creek and Irish Creek; beginning at a White-oak tree marked with IO notches--Viz.--3 against 3 and 2 against 2 , stand by a branch of the said Irish Creek called Doring (roring) Branch----thence South I3° West IO5 perches then South -East Twenty-two perches to part of said land sold to Peter Anderton(deced), and North [illegible]n 46° with that land I2I perches, Then, North 34° West 83 perches, Then South 90 perches, then West by North 60 perches, then North I46 perches, then South I5°--[illegible] 30 min. West till it meets with a North-by-West line drawn from the aforsaid White-oak. Containing and laid out for 83 acres more or less ."--- "And also :-

"All that part of a [illegible] parcel of land called Cumberland, beginning[illegible] at the first Bounded tree of the of the said land called Eafon's (Eason's) Addition and running with that North 94° Westerly I66 perches, then North 56° easterly 83 perches to a tract of land called Tolha Ventura (sometimes called Horton Venture, JLV) then with that line

South-South-East to a tract of land called Cove Hall, then with that line ,Cove Hall, to the first beginning Tree. Containing 30 acres ."

Here followed a Waranty and declaration that they have undisputed right of disposal.

Signed John Valliant
her
Judicth X Valliant
mark

Witnesses , Thomas Bullen
W. Thomas

Recorder, Thomas Bullen

Note, There is in the general index to Deeds an entry that say. Judicth Valliant, Exect. Husb. to Anthony Le Compte, Deed , date I742, recorded DEEDS , book I5, page 22I-" Must be an error because the Deed of sale by John and wife, Judicth,is that page.....the last of three pages. Unless it be that her Deed of Sale begins on that page.

The only explanation of this final sell-out by John that offers itself is that he bought the shares of all his sisters and brother with borrowed money which he was unable to repay. The Record calls him a Carpenter and it also says he had a ship-yard. He may have been a ship-carpenter. Thomas Valliant sold an unfinished schooner lying at John Valliant's Ship-yard. It is quite likely that any buyer of these Valliant lands would have asked that Judicth also give a Deed as Executor of John's estate. This shows she is still alive in I750 but a Deposition by Edward Elliot's son in I739 quoting a statement of his father's indicates that he was dead at that time. After his death Judicth may have resumed the name of Judicth Valliant.

There is another sale recorded,by John and Wife Judicth This also is in I750, recorded inDeeds, book I7 ,page 52I ----------"John Valliant and wife Judicth make Deed of sale to James Edge for atract of land called Gafford's Neck ,lying on the East side of Broad Creek and North side of Choptank River,beginning at the head of Oystershell Cove---containing I00 acres. I found no record of how this property came to Valliant hands. It is nearer to Saint Michaels than is present day Bellevue . It might have come to John through the Frith's, his first wife's family, who lived in its neighborhood.

I have produced this long array of records concerning this unfortunate son of John of Trod Avon correcting Mr James' erronious tradition that it was John of Trod Avon who sold the farmlands to Anthony LeCompte.

John,the seller to Anthony LeCompte is twice more in the Record. In I665 when he makes the "Deposition " and in I667---March 4th when a Talbot Court declares him"Levy-Free". This in Provincial Courts ,, March Term , I767.
The Deposition is in Land Commision, book D.-D. page 705.

It is at the April Session of the County Court,---recorded in LAND COMMISSIONS , book D.*D, page 705. John appears durO ing the trial of a case entitled :- Newcomb Vs. Hindman,--- a dispute over the boundry line separating their properties, ----lands abbutting on or may be part of lands origionaly owned or claimed by John. The Record has this :-- " The Deposition of John Valliant aged about 69 years, Being duly sworn on the Holy Evangel of God, saith , that fifty years ago he lived with his father,John Valliant,who marryd the widow of Ralph Dawson, on the plantation where John Lockerman lately lived ,and that his father always made use of the land on the North side of the Creek and Branch,up to the bridge (which place he now shows to the Sherrif and Surveyors)- and, that this Deponent,by his father's orders has cut board timbers on the back of the place where there stood th a haftered tobacco house, (which place he also shows the Sherrif and Surveyors)-- and that the place where the said tobacco house stood was in them times in the woods and that he frequently, by his father's orders,cut board timber at and about the said place without any interuption from John Dawson or any other person. And, that the lands of the Dawsons was deemed to extend near where the Robsons now live---------That upwards of twenty years ago this Deponent was at Perry Benson's house and Robert Newcomb was also there ; and Perry Benson said to this Deponent :-"Cozin John, you had better sell your partof Partnership, as it runs into the lands of the Dawsons and you will be puzzled to get any of it, as you are a poor man and not able to go to the Law ; and at this same time the said Perry Benson told Robert Newcomb if he could get this Deponent's part he would also give him his part of Partnership, and, after some persuasion,this Deponent agreed with Robert Newcomb for the purchase of the said land for 500 pounds of tobacco, and , accordingly made a Deed either to Perry Benson or Robert Newcomb, but to which he does not remember, (he sold his last of Partnership to Perry Benson.--J-L-V) and, this Deponent saith he has heard his mother-in-law say that that the Creek was the division beuween John and Ralph Dawson and that the line extended up as far as the aforsaid bridge. And , this Deponent being asked by Robert Newcomb if he ever heard his father say that he claimed thee land on which he cut the aforsaid timber in his own right or in right of his wife ; answered that he "did not Remember that he did ; neither didhis father tell him of any Rights he held to any land that had been held by the Dawsons, ---But, that he understood he cut the aforsaid timber in right of his intermarriage with the widow of Ralph Dawson. This Deponent being also asked what lands he understood his father claimed in right of his wife, he said all the lands of Ralph Dawson, which he says he understood extended from the house where his said father lived to within a quarter of a mile of where the Robsons now live, and , that John Dawson [illegible] as having when his father lived where Ralph Dawson lived in his lifetime, And, that he had his knowledge of the said

Ralph Dawson's land in the time of the said John Dawson ; but does not remember whether the said John Dawson was living when he cut the aforsaid timbers,and further saith not".
April Term of Court 1765.

This Deposition places John II birth in 1696 , a year so after the marriage of his father to Mary Frith. He would be seventeen or eighteen when cutting timbers by father orders. Whatever Rights or benefits John Sr. had"in right of his wife" ordinarily her Widow's Rights would terminate on re-marriage. there is no mention of her children , but it is likely that keeping them at home ,their home is what led John to live on the Ralph Dawson farm after the marriage. The record shows that all Dawsons left several children. In all this however there is still no direct clue as to why Ralph's wife Mary should become John's well-beloved and justifiably trusted "Judieth", who survived him by more than thirty years,--- survived Edward Elliott by thirtee or fourteen years also -----judging by the Deposition made by Sussannah (V) Ashcroft and Edward's son Edward Elliott Jr, in 1756 or 37., in the matter of a Deed of ownership for the parrish church at St. michaels. It is in the Birth Records of this church that the birth of Dorothy and Sussannah(?) are recorded. I visited this Church expecting to have a look at origional birth and marriage records. By the time I had learned where the records were,from the Local Historian,---in the vault at the bank----the bank had closed . I could not wait another day. I learned,though that the Records between 1695 and 1725 have been lost. It is worth mentioning that two Ralph Dawsons died within three ~~months~~ years of each other ---I have assumed that it was the widow of the younger who married John. She and Ralph had four daughters and one son. All his Es-- tate went to them in case the mother remarried.

John II is again in the Record in the June term or session of 1765 John was allowed three days pay for attendance as a Witness for James Colston. John appears once more. This also in Provincial Court , March 4th, 1767 Session. The Justices sitting are names notable in Maryland history, They were :- John Goldsboro,Richard Goldsboro,Johnathan Nicholls, James Dickenson,Edwin Oldham and Risdon Bozman. The Court declared him "Levy-Free". This I take to mean that neither his property nor person was subject to levy,or attachment, This order is recorded in a volume of Provincial Court Proceedings ,period 1765 to 1769.

As has been said,this John died without having made a will. It is from other sources we know that he had a family. Mr James (of St. Michaels) says John had three sons. ----that their names are John,Thomas and Nicholas. There are three in the Record who live there. Mr James says that one of them Label ,Thomas married the daughter of Anthony LeCompte. But he is wrong there. It was John not Thomas who married Anthony's daughter, Mary. My authority is the

Will of Anthony himself. I give here a transcript of Anthony's Will which was copied from a certified copy of the original Will. This certified copy is now in the hands of Mrs. Ernest A. Townsend,who now owns a part of "Cumberland and lives in the modern farmhouse. The maker of this Will was the Grandson of the pioneer Antoine LeCompt who was naturalized as a British subject after his arrival in the Colony. His petition to the Proprietors for naturalization is a moving one. "Citizenship" was granted him in the Sixteen Hundred and Fiftys.

THE WILL:*

"In the Name of God ,Amen . I ,Anthony LeCompte of Talbot County and State of Maryland,Planter, at this time being in health of body and of perfect mind and memory,do make this my last Will and Testament.

"First ; I recommend my Soul to Almighty God who gave it,expecting in the Last Day to receive it from Him again and crowned with joy and glory ; and my body to the dust , to be decently burried at the direction of my Executors. My Effects and Estate I bequeathe and dispose of in manner and form following, Viz. :-

Item -- I give and bequeathe to my beloved Grandson,Anthony Spedden my now dwelling plantation; that is to say ;- Part of Elam's Addition which I bought and purchased of RICHARD COSTON, also part of Cumberland which I bought of John Valliant, to him,the said Anthony Spedden (and) the heirs of his body,lawfully begotten, forever. And,for want of such heirs,to go to my Grandson William Hubbard and his heirs forever.

"Item :- I also give and bequeathe to grandson Anthony Spedden one Negro boy named Levin,one good feather bed and furniture,my writing desk, my case and bottles, one cow and calf, two ewes and lambs and one iron bound chest.

"Item :- , I also give and bequeathe unto John Valliant, who married my daughter Mary, the land he now lives on, Viz:- Part of Lobb's Corner and part of Elam's Addition,which I bought of John Valiant, also part of Anthony's Enlargement which joineth to him,to him and his heirs forever. The Residue and remainder of my personal Estate with all my goods-estate aforsaid, with all my other property to me appertaining, I give and bequeathe to my five daughters to be equaly divided among them.

"And, I do hereby constitute and appoint William Hubbard of Caroline County and my grandson Anthony Spedden to be my Whole and sole Executors of this my Last Will and Testament, and, I do hereby utterly revoke and disallow and dissanull all forms of bequests, Wills and Legacies by me heretofore in any way left or made, declaring,ratifying and confirming this and no other to be my last Will and Testament. In witness whereof I hereunto set my hand and Seal ,this nineteenth day of (Nyth) March in the year of Our Lord 17[illegible].

Signed, Anthony LeCompte SEAL

"Signed, Sealed , Published"

"Declared by the within named Testator, Anthony LeCompte, to be his last Will and Testament, in the presence of us who subscribe our names in the presence of said Testator.

Andrew Orem
NICHOLAS Orem
Rachel Orem

Of Talbot County aforsaid
September I9, I782.

"Then came William Hubbard and Anthony Spedden, the Ex-- ecutors in and by said Will named, and made oath on the Holy Evangel Of Almighty God, that the within instrument of writing is the true and whole Will an Testament of Anthony LeCompte, late of Talbot County, deceased, that hath come into their possession and that they doth not know of any other".

"Certified by John Braco, Registrar of Wills, Talbot County. September 9 I782 ".

Then came Andrew Orem, Nicolas Oram and Rachel Orem, the subscribing Witnesses to the within Last Will and Testament of Anthony LeCompte, late of Talbot County, deceased, and severaly on the Holy Evangel of Almighty God (declare) that they did see the Testator therein named sign and Seal this Will and heard him publish it."

Following the above but at the botton of the last page appears the following Certification :-

Talbot County, (sect)

"In testamony that the foregoing is a true copy from Libs. J.-B. (or P.-JLV.) "I, Fol. I26-I27 & I28 , one of 2nd. Books belonging to my Office, I have hereunto set my hand and Seal of my Office. This: 20th day of Sept. I797."

(Signed) I.A. Price , Registrar of Wills.
Talbot County ".

Recorded in Book J.-B. # 3 pages I26-7-8.

Note :- difference in the numberin of the volume may be due to error in deciphering the faded lettering.

In order to show more clearly the continuity of the "Story" shown by the Record from John of Tred Avon to his grandson John Valliant. --son in law of Anthony LeCompte, I will introduce here the will of this grandson John. It is dated May 8th. , I800. It is recorded in Talbot County WILLS , Book J.P. "5 , pages 385-6-7.

Will of John Valliant, made and signed May 8 , I800 -- -- -- "I give and bequeathe to my beloved wife Mary, all my dwelling plantation where I now live , except a Reserve made for my daughter Margt (which will be hereafter mentioned) during her widowhood or or natural life. And, the third part of my personal Estate.

ITEM.

I give and bequeathe to my son John all that part of my dwelling plantation, before bequeathed to my beloved

wifein base of her intmarriageor death,to him and his heirs forever,-by his paying unto my son Jeremiah the sum of 100 Punds good and lawful money of the State of Maryland,when Jeremiah is twenty-one years old, if he,my son John shall be in possession of the beforementioned land---and, if not, when he does come into possession of the aforsaid land.

ITEM,

I give and bequeathe to my daughter Marget all that part of my land which is contained within the following metes and bounds Viz;-- "Beginning at a cedar tree with a prize-hole cut in it, standing near where the house now stands in which she dwells, and running from the said cedar tree, withe the North side of the marsh 100 yards, and then North until it intersects with the home-line of Cumberland, and then withe Cumberland to the water ,and to the first beginning.

----------"20 grand-daughter Kitty,the sum of Twenty Dollars to be laid out for her at the discretion of her Grand-mother."

Signed: John Valliant.

WITNESSES William Hubbard
William Coleston

Will Probated March 3rd. 1801
Recorded in Talbot County WILLS , book J.P. #5 ,page385-6-7.

I am going to addhere another link in this tight chain of Successions. ---a brief statment. John and MaryLeCompte Valliant had three [illegible] children ; John ,Jeremiah and "Marget", John is the elder. Here is his Will :--
(He was born November 5th 1767 and died June 5th 1802.
The Will is dated June 34th 1802
It was Probated July 27th , 1802.
It is Recorded in Talbot ,WILLS Vol. J.-P. #5 page 468.
It reads:-

To my wife Elenor(Rigby) Valliant, the home plantation --&---- *--&-- To son Hugh at her death or marriage. remainder of Estate, to ---four children : John,Mary, Rigby and Ja... "

Signed : John Valliant
Executors :- Wife,Elenor and Moses Sherwood.
Witnesses :-Nicholas Watts,Samuel Watts, & Thomas Bruff

John and Elenor were married May 2nd. 1786. She was 23 at the time of their marriage.

On August 10th 1802 Elenor,the widow of John Valliant relinquished her legacy from her husband and claimed her Dower Right. From Chancery Papers #5275, Vol. 35,page 405.

This brings the succession through John of Trod Avon down to within the knowledge of of many of the family still living ---most of them in Maryland and some of them on the

lands that have been owned and occupied by Valliants since John of Tred Avon acquired them between 1704 and 1714, except for the period 1853 to 1903.

Returning now to the other sons of John Jr. and Judieth-second. Tradition says they were Nichilas and Thomas. Their place in the Record is short and because of the appearance of other Johns, Thomases and Nicholases in different places and different connections identification is sometimes uncertain. We have the marriage date of Thomas to Rachel Grace in 1737. That means he was at least twenty years old...Born 1717.....probably the first-born of John Jr. & Judieth. He may have been somthing of a seafarer----this is suggested by the scarcity of records about him and the fact that he sold a twenty-two ton schooner to John Hunter.(recorded in Talbot DEEDS, book 19 , page 264) The vessel was not finished, which may mean he was a builder. The vessel lay at the ship-yard of John Valliant, his father, probably. (the record once described John Jr. as a Ship Carpenter) This sale took place in 1764, when John Jr. is 68.----it could have been that the yard belonged to Thomas' brother John.

Nicholas the third brother is spoken of in the Record as Nicholas Valliant of Eastn. He also was a shipping man. Most of the records we have concerning him are about his shipping services. He is younger than John, born about 1720. He was past military age (about 56 when the Revolution began, but he rendered transport service by sea. In the Military census of 1776 he registered as Past Fifty....from Mill Hundered, the area between Tred Avon and Miles River. He operated the schooner "SALLY". In the Index of Army affairs in the Revolution his name appears ten times. I did not get to copy the text, The Index is:-

In--	Intendants Orders -------	#1 ,	Folio,	59.
	" " "	#1 ,	" ,	76.
	" " "	#2 ,	" ,	9.
	Ledger "	99 ,	" ,	29.
	Ledger	"9 ,	" ,	36.
	"	"9 ,	" ,	75.
	"	#10 ,	" ,	7
	"	#10 ,	" ,	34.
	Letter Book	#10 ,	" ,	20.
	Day Book , A.	"10 ,	" ,	84.

In the Maryland Historical Society's Re-Print number 2 48 , beginning page 213 as recorded :- "The Council of Maryland ordered ,"That West Shore Treasurer pay to Nicholas Valliant 25 Pounds ,16 Shillings, 9 Pence due him on certificate issued by Henry Hollingsworth, Deputy Quarter-Master General. Adjusted July 13 , 1782. ----------
----this meant that there had been adjustment made due to the depreciated currency in use during the War.

The next entry says :-- "Council of Mary land ordered

that the said Treasurer pay to Nicholas Valliant II Pounds, 5 Shillings, specie due him ~~him~~ on Account, for transporting troops to head of Elk ", --This was undated.

The next is from the same Re-print---- "Correspondence", Council of Maryland, April 6th 1782, ----------"Council, to Honourable Intendant": "On the 25th of the same month (Dec., 1781) Charles Blake of Queen Ann County forwarded by Nicholas Valliant 15543 pounds of beef which was also ordered to be delivered to Mr. Crisswell whose receipt specifies only 11585 pounds, ---deficiency of 3958 pounds. We give you this information that in the settlement of these accounts, justice may be done the State", ----------In this same correspondence was another letter in the same matter which had this to say on the same subject;-- "~~Mr~~ " Council to Hon. Intendant", This says: that a shipment by Capt. Blandy's ship of 46420 pounds of beef was receipted for by Mr. Crissal as 37711 pounds,-----being 8709 pounds short ". The implication is that Mr. Crissal is on the Make, but I did not find any record of what happened in the end. There was not even comment from the writer-reporter.

In the Census of 1776 Nicholas registered one son over 16 and one under sixteen.

Turning now to the family of Joseph, third son of John of John of Tred Avon. Of the family there are five sons and a daughter, Mary who married John Harris. We know the names of the brothers from the Will made by one of them, John, This son of Joseph, John, tell us more about his father's family than they in all together(four of them) tell. John was probably the elder, born in the period 1720-25. He signed his Will Sept. 24th, 1795. It was Probated Oct. 18th, of the same year....indicating his death in early October. The Will is recorded in Caroline WILLS, Lib.J-R. #B, page 420. He ------"Leaves to Betty Brannock ------£90.00. To Mary Williamson ------$20.00 out of the First money of the Estate. Four Negroes to be Free--under certain conditions. The remainder of the Estate to be divided into two parts. One half to go to his two grand-daughters Elizabeth and Margaret Valliant, The other half to be divided to "My following brothers and sister:- James Valliant, Bennett Valliant, William Valliant, Nicholas Valliant and Sister Maty Harris, wife of John Harris."

Executor, James Brannock";

I found no record that would indicate the name of John's son; father of Elizabeth and Margaret. But I would say that Mr Brannock their guardian had a handfull. Margaret knew what she wanted, as is shown by a Report of expendature from the Estate in her behalf;-------- At the Dec Term of the County Court Brannock reports and the Court approved the following expenditure(This is Dec. 1800).

"To ---3 1/2 yds. Irish lace ---------- 12 Shil.

Silk	8	Shg.	
1 pair shoes	10	Shg.	
1 yard cotton	6	"	9 P.
3 &1/2 yards chintz	33	"	
1 Handkerchief	3	"	9 "
1 pair shoes	10	"	
4 & 1/2 yards of Stuff	14	"	10 "
Silk	6	"	
2 yards white cotton	6	"	6 "
1 Handkerchief	3	"	9 "
1 pair stockings	7	"	
2 Yards muslin	3	"	9 "
2 Yards Irish Linen	16	"	3 "
Merchandise	10	"	11 "
6 Yards cotton	25	"	6 "
1 Yard linen	3	"	6 "
1 Muslin Handkerchief	4	"	
4 Months and 6 days schooling	25	"	7 "
Doctor's bill	15	"	
Making Bonnett	3	"	9 "

Total, 11 Pounds 17 Shg. 3 pen.

Recorded in : Administration Accounts, 1773 to 1800
Caroline County. Page 135

In a time and age when "Home-spun" described most of what was worn ..urgy must have been doing her share in making-the-looking-good. Nothing was said about their mother so the girls must have been orphaned. Grandfather's friend James Brannock must have been every-man's friend.....he is named by three or four different neighbors as Executor, Trustee, Guardian or executor. ----------Grandfather John registered at Mellville Warehouse, the then Caroline Court-House seat in an Census taken in 1778. His son registered(John Jr.) as over 16. John of Caroline would have had to be born about 1750 in order to be grandfather to a boy Over Eighteen in 1778. This is the basis for my conclusion that Joseph's marriage to Sarah Ray was a second marriage.

Of James, one of the surviving four brothers there is not much to say.....the record covers so much GROUND that it is hard to pin a tag on where there seems more than one. In Provincial Court, Talbot County Ordered that an Attachment be issued immediately against James Valliant for Contempt of Court in not attending as required by a sub subponea out of this Court to testify for Margery Lapemore against Richard Mansfield----------Attachment issued". ----------This is from a Talbot volume of with un-numbered pages of a rough "Minute " book for the year 1774. In response to the Summons James appeared at the Court session on July 23, 1774 and testified as above indicated. The Contempt charge was dissmissed on condition he pay his own fees for attendance at Court. His next appearance in the Record is from

Queen Ann County. In the census of I776 James registered as of Military Age from Wallsey Hundred, With James registered,also from Wallsey Hundred and of Military Age,was Robert Valliant. This Robert living near of with James is most certainly a Cousin,or,more likely,Second Cousin anda Grandson of Nicholas of Charles County. Also registering from Queen Ann County,but from Town Hundred is Valliant Esgate, son of Caleb Esgate and Dorothy Valliant Esgate. James appears also in the Vestry Records of Saint Luke&8 Parish. He must have been a Vestryman . In Vol. I of these records he appears on pages 9, II7 - II8-- I28 Also in this register is the name of Isac Hurlock whose kinswoman,probably Niece,is to marry the son of his neighbor, Robert Valliant.

Bennett the third member of the Joseph Valliant sons also got small space in the Record. In I748 he is listed among the members of a company of Militia cmmanded by Captain Haddaway of the Provincial Militia. Among other members of his Company whose names are familiar to us are Thomas Valliant (cousin of James$) , James High , Hugh, Benjamine, and Philemon Spencer, John Harrington. James Spencer is the father of Robert Spencer Here I will go out on a limb and make guess that Robert Spencer's sister married Robert Valliant-I77?- and that their no guessing needed about the next chapter.....on Feb I3th I772 a son was born and named Robert Spencer Valliant. In I776 Bennett Valliant was a Witness to the Will of John Morris of Talbot County. ----this from Magruder's Abstract of Md. Wills,Vol. I ,page 79. On Feb. 2nd , I790, Bennett gave a Bill of Sale to his son (a Vetran of the Revolution) Bennett Jr. For the following list of property :-- Farm tools abd equipment,--- 2 horses ; two cows ; 2 sows ; IIshoats ; 2 colts ;20 bushels of Indian corn ; 2 I/2 bushels of sowed wheat ; 600 pounds of tobacco ; I grindstone ; 6 pigs" his

The Bill of Sale was signed Bennett X Valliant
mark

It It is recorded in Dorchester County Book H.-D. #2, page 466.

Another in this Brother-team is William Valliant. He registered in the census of I776 as"Under 50 years old"-- with two sons"over I6 years old. There were five daughters under I6 years old. One of these sons would be of military age. That is all I found concerning William.

CORRECTION-----to make an addition. The John who registered at Melivillie Warehouse.Caroline County may be the one (from Caroline)credited with Service at Cook's Point on Oct. 4th , I777 and in the same year enlisted in the 5th Maryland Regiment. Served till I78I.

Of Nicholas the 4th brother I have nothing definite.

Turning now from the family of John of Tred Avon to that of his Brother Nicholas of Charles County the Record is thin and hard to follow. We know about him as a child and when he is named in the handling of the Estate of his father We have the record of the birth of two daughters and that his wife's name was Mary-----the two daughters Jemima and Elizabeth.....of which I gave documentation earlier. It is possible I will find more about him in the early Records in St. Marys an and Charles Countys.....not yet visited in my records-search. Although lacking record to show it I am confident that he and Mary did have a son ,possibly two, because of the appearance on the Eastern Shore of Valliants of near the same age as the sons of John and Joseph,-----Robert I have mentioned, after him another John unidentified , Daniel and Ansel all without a place in the families of descendants of John of Tred Avon. The unidentified John who went on the Surety bond in 1759 of John Jr. ,son of John of Tred Avon---could not have been John the son of Joseph,------Joseph's John could not have been old enough unless born when his father Joseph was 17, about the time Joseph was living with his father and cutting Board Timber on land held "In right of his wife", (the widow of Ralph Dawson) was being done by brother John,as you will remember. With Joseph's son John out we have to turn to Nicholas for a son or grandson John----it could be either, because Nicholas married nearly ten years before John married Mary Frith. Such an other son of Nicholas John may be in the Record several times and credited to the Tred Avon Johns. A number of the entries concern activities that do not fit in exactly with the John I credit ed them to.

Of Daniel the presumptive Grandson of Nicholas little is recorded. We have no clue to his age but know he made a Will in 1795 and that he married Elizabeth Alford--License issued Jan 29th , 1787, by Caroline County Clerk. Nothing to indicate whether this was a first or second marriage. The beneficiary of his Will was son William Valliant and his Heirs. We do not know how old this son was. James Brannock was the Executor of the Will. It is recorded in Caroline WILLS ,Liber, J.R. #B. page 313. The total value,net,of the Estate was 260 Pounds, 17 Shillings and 3 3/4 Pence . (Caroline Administration ACCOUNTS 1787 to 1800, page 67). In 1792 Daniel was allowed one days pay for Jury duty. In 1795 one days pay for Jury duty . Those jury entrys are from Caroline COURT MINUTES. I should mention that it was in the Library of Congress that I found the record about Daniels marriage.

The unknown John,who appears to provide part of the added 200 Pound bond of his kinsman,is in the record ----I found this one in a Brumbaugh Heads of Maryland Families---- it was in the State-House Library at Annapolis This records that a marriage license was issued in in 1765 to John Valliant ,aged Fifty, and Mary [illegible] O Neale the daughter of Bryan [illegible] O-Neale. This would place his birth in 1715 .....at a time when there is no one to look to as father

of another John except in a son of Nicholas [illegible] of Charles C County. It is safe to assume that Nicholas had one son, but after that we must suppose that such a son had several sons, judging by the number of Valliants showing in the Record associated with the family but not descendants of John of Tred Avon. There is still another un-earmarked John who married Ann Robinson of Royal Oak in 17[illegible],to become the father of Ann Valliant ,who was raised by an Uncle living in Annapolis , She married Seth Sweetser, was famed for her beauty . Another un-earmarked is Denny Valliant who married Ann Vickers in Dorchester County in 1756. Still another non-John-of Tred Avon- descendant is Aron Valliant of Washington County, a Soldier in the Revolution. Of most of these the record is meager....but that of Robert Valliant is a voluminous though it does not give any direct record of his father. The Record indicates that he was born about 1740 or a little later. He showed an inclination toward beligerance, but did not serve as a soldier in the Revolution, although he did register as of age for military service. The fact that he died before he was 45 suggests he was disqualified physicaly. But that did not keep him from mixing it with a neigh bor.

The first record concerning Robert is found in a book of Minutes of a Court held in Talbert County between 1765 and 1769. Justices sitting Goldsborough, Goldsborough, Dickonson, Martin, Oldham, Bozman and Nicols. -----I give the "Minutes" that relate to Robert:-

"William Marshall gave a Bond of 20 Pounds for appearance at June 1767 Court session to testify for their Lordships against Robert Valliant, charged with felony." ---- ---

" Robert Valliant being indicted for felony and not having Security to appear and answer at next Term, is commited to the Sherrif till he gives security in 40 Pounds on condition he appear at June Court and answer to charge of felony---- --- -- and keep the Peace, [illegible] be of good behaviour and not depart without leave". -------

---- "Provincial Court Proceedings, First Tuesday in August , 1767.------William Marshall gave bond (renewal) to appear at next Term (November) of Court to testify against Robert Valliant ." From the wording of the Judges commitment it is reasonable to suppose that Roberts offense is an assault on the complainant.....felonious assault. In any case it was of a nature that led his honor to warn him not to do it again---keep the peace. The cash bond put up by the witnesses suggests that they were unwilling witnesses. I did not find the Courts decision in the matter.

In 1769 Robert is again in Court ,this time as a witness.-----testifying for M. Oram in a suit styled Philip Rigby Vs. M. Oram. This seems a queer sort of case---almost like a big family quarrel. The witnesses lined up like this :-

---For Rigby :- Anthony LeCompte, John Valliant, Moses Rigby, Jr. John Hopkins Sr. While Witnesses for Oram were Arthur Le

Compte, Thomas Valliant, Robert Valliant, Robert Newnam. The Court rendered judgment in favor of plaintiff, Philip Rigby.

Before going any further with Robert Valliant I want to say that after rechecking ages of James and Robert Spencer I have decided that the Spencer daughter I conjured out of probabilities , would have to be a daughter of Robert Spencer, not a sister. James Spencer made a Will in 1742 , It was probated On June 29 , 1743. I will give the Will, Which leaves :- "To son Robert Spencer lands of "Bossom's Enlargment" , also part of "Edward's Hopewell" , also part of Madison Point" Robert to pay his brother Richard 3000 pounds of tobacco when Richard becomes 21." Son James received a conditional bequest.

The wife and Perry Benson to be Executors"

The Will was signed :- James his mark X Spencer

(From Talbot WILLS. Book H.-B. "2 page 370.)

Here is another example of close association of the Spencer and Valliant circles. Perry Benson ,an Executor of Spencer's Estate, is at that time the partner of John Valliant in ownership of "Partnership". Those Spencers owned farms scattered between Trod Avon and St. Michaels River and along Irish Creek. Some joined with Clay's Hope,... one joined with Cumberland. Others were "along the maine road. With Robert Spencer managing three farms after 1743 no strong imagination is needed to conjure up for him a daughter born around 1745.

There is nothing more in the Record about Robert Valliant. It is probable that he continued to live in Queen Ann until his death. This took place before the Census of 1790 was taken.....according to my interpretation of its report of the Robert Valliant family. The Census lists them as :-

Robert Valliant----------Head of family
Males over 16, 1 Under 16, 2.
Females " ", 2

If there is only one Robert in the family over 16 that one must be Robert Spencer.V...we know he is alive and just 16. ----born Feb. 19, 1772 according to the record of the old family Bible left by his youngest son Robert C. Valliant and now owned by Mrs. A.B. Chiles of Union City ,Tenn.....with whom I visited during one of my rounds of record-hunting in Opperation Granpaw. I do not know whether my interpretation of the Census figures would hold in law or not,but until some record turns up with a definit contradictory fact I will rely on it as logical. I omitted to in its proper place to say that The 1790 Census records the orphaned Valliants as living in Queen Ann County.....where we first found Robert their father.

The Record from now is concerned with Robert Spencer Valliant although only his first name, Robert, is used. These qutations are not from Court Proceedings but from a Docket memorandum or somthing of the kind. I found them in the basement vault of the Dorchester County Court House at Cambridge on my second visit there. After exhausting the Index files in the main Record Room an employee told me there were some ver old record books, along with other unimportant papers and books in the basement vault. I was turned loose there. Found an old paper bound book without page numbers or index. The only identification was the dates on the cover :- 1765--1780 on one and 1792---1798 on the other. These entrys are mostly in abbreviations. Robert Valliant appears five times. The first is :-

(1)" Valliant ---LeCompt ;Appearance notice.
Civil--- 1795--Oct. term."

(2)" LeCompte--- Valliant ; appearance
46-47-48- 145."

(3) [illegible] Robert Valliant Vs. Risdon LeCompte
B.M. Caps. afsault titl. g filed
46 cepi
J.B. appe cont. No. 21
Oct. term 1795. "

(4) B.M Valliant, Robert Vs. John LeCompte
47 capis trespas titl g filed
HWW-J D. cpe ---- appe.
continued # 22 (no Date)

(5) Robert Valliant Vs. Risdon LeCompte.
B-M cep. trespass titl g filed
46 capi - appe. Continued #23.

I have tried to set this down just as it was written in the old book. Apparently it is a case in which charge and counter charge is made who the aggressor is is not clear. But I found a record in the main vault or Record Room that may be the winding up of the case. Dorchester County Court, Book H.D. # 10, page 291. -------- "Robert Valliant charged by Risdon LeCompte with Assault. Declared Not Guilty.
October Term 1796.

Aside from an indicator of the personality of Robert this Record also shows that Robert is living, or at least staying in Dorchester. He had married in Dorchester County in 1794. Presumably had lived there since his marriage. He had married Martha Hurlock------sometimes called Polly. She was the daughter of Johnathan Hurlock------an old-Maryland-family even then. Several families of them still live in and around the town of Hurlock in Dorchester County. At this same time there are a number of other Valliants in the Dor-

chester County Records-----five other Valliants in that old and forgotten docket Memorandum in the cellar vault, These were Benjamine, Joseph, Bennett, Nicholas and Levin.

Robert and Martha began raising a large family but whether in Queen Ann or Dorchester is not recorded. The four first-born were born may have been divided between Dorchester and Queen Ann. They were James,born May 30, 1795, ; Sarah, born Feb. 16 , 1797. --------Denton Hurlock, July 13 . 1799 ----------Elizabeth Jan 16, 1801, The birth-place of Vashti is not given ~~xxxxxxx~~ born Feb 15 , 1803. William T. Sept 3 1806 was born in Kentucky. Martha born Jan 29 , 1808. born in Alabama (Then Mississippi Territory. The next name on the roll was folded ,faded and unreadable. William C. born June 11 , 1811. in Ala.

There is another case in 1796 before the Court styled Valliant Vs. John LeCompte. No name or initial for Valliant but because it is in the same "Language" as the memorandums I found in the cellar records, it may concern Robert. It is recorded in book H.-D. #10 , page (there are 3 pages of these abbreviations,but I give but the one) 93--94 and 95, here it is :--

Valliant against John LeCompte.
Adminstr of John.
Case Mar. ------agreemt Pleas reptn.
to 2nd plea rejoinder &. issu &. &.--
stk. off without cost "
March Term 1798 , #10 of civil Trials. ""

The last Maryland record I found of Robert is dated 1800. In this Robert sells a bunch of houdehold equipment. It is recorded in Book S.-T. --N. "5 ,page 370. Date Dec. 6th 1800. It says :-

I,Robert Valliant of Queen Ann County,State of Maryland, for ten Pounds and 4 pence paid by Henry Coursey,sold two feather beds,weight 130 pounds ; 2 bedsteads and cords;2 blankets ; 2 bolsters and pillows, 1 sheet, 1bedquilt ; 2 rugs., 2 chests 2 tables ; 2 pots ; 1 iron kettle; 1 corner cupboard ; 5 rush-bottom chairs and some crockery.
Dec. 4th , 1800.

Signed :- Robert Valliant
his X Mark.

Recorded Dec. 26 , 1800 by Henry Coursey--- the sum of 1o POunds , 4 shillings ,current money.

Sworn before Art Emory

This completes the Maryland record of Robert Spencer Valliant-------so far as I know it. His record after the "Emmigration" I will take up in another chapter, after I I have done a little more for the home-keeping Shore

Returning now to the Tred Avon Valliants. The last mentioned was the Grandson of John of Tred Avon-----the fourth John Valliant,counting Jean the Emmigrant as number I . As has been shown John 4. was reinstated as owner of the Ferry-Neck Farms,Lobb's Corner,Eason's Addition and Cumberland through the Will of Anthony LeCompte,his Father-in-Law. There is no recod date for John 4.'s birth date but it wa probably in the 1730s. His son John was born in 1767

John 4 first positive appearance in the Record is in connection with a suit against Adam Comson(Talbot Provincial Court "1765--1769.--page ?--) in which the Court orded Protection " give to John Seymour while appearing for John 4. This was March 2nd , 1768. In the August session of the same Court, "Protection" was ordered by the Court for Thomas Valliant , witness for John 4 when the suit was re-tried. In this ame year a son was born to John 4 and Mary He was named John also ,to identify him "John 5".

On November 28 1769 John was appointed as guardian of a Minor,William Harrison Jr. (BONDS (Dorchester BONDS, Vol. 23, page 418) In this he obligates himself to pay to this William Harrison, upon his becoming 21 years old, the sum of 36 Pounds,9 Shillings and 11 Pence. He gave as security for the payment of this sum the following list of property :-

Item	--- 1 bed and furnature.....	7 pnds.	10 S.	
"	1 old horse ----------	1	0	0
2	---Some cypress wair----------		3 "	
"	To ,credit with Mary Harrison ---------	0	" 12	"
"	To,Pork in Perry Harrison's hands	1	" 19	"1/2
"	11 3/4 pounds pewter,at 1& 8 per Lb.		18	"2 P.
"	1 gun ---------- --	1	" 6	0
"	193/4 Lb. tow-thread at 9 P,,Lb. --		10	" 1
"	1 Heifer ----------	1	" 16	"
"	1 shirt and vest lining ----------	1z	" 1	9

Flex

The total value of the property posted as security is only 17 Pounds, 10 Shillingd-----only about half the amount he is expected to pay. There two points on which the question might be raised that this Guardian -bond -makey is John 4. The first is that as guardian he lives outside the jurisdiction of the Court. The second point is that The security given is not in keeping with the opperator of two or three farms ---and the son in law of the quite well-to-do Anthony LeCompte. This chaael-security sounds like this might belong to our branch ---unpropertied Nicholastans,

John 4s next appearance in the Record is in Court as witness for his Father-in-law Anthony LeCompte in the Philip Rigby Vs. M, Oram suit that seems to Divide our "House" against itself , with Anthony LeCompte,John Valliant, Moses Rigby Jr. and John Hopkins on the Rigby side and Arthur LeCompte,Thomas Valliant,Robert Valliant and Robert Newnam on the Oram side-------and all of them related by marriage or otherwise,to each other.

In I765 John 4 was appointed ,with James Coleston, as Public Tobacco Warehousemen,and gave bond for the proper performance of duty. The appointment was by the State of Maryland. It is recorded in Talbot DEEDS, Book 23, page 23.

In I776 John registered from Mill Hundred(political sub-division of a County. Incidentaly there were four Valliants registered in that Census from Mill Hundred. They are :- John,Nicholas,Bennett and William. In the same year th they all four registered as of Military Age.

There are certainly two Johns in the Records of the Revolutionary War ,and , possibly three.

First there is Captain John Valli ant whose ship was used for transport services----recorded in Intendant's Ledger ,apparentl three cargoes to Baltimore. recorded in Ledger A #IO, fol. 3 . Again, Ledger #IO, fol 66 and yet again in Ledger #9 , fol 25. Another John is on the muster Roll of the ship DEFENCE,..for Sept I8, I776. This would Be "Signing On". How long it lasted not recorded. The third John enlisted in the Fifth Maryland Regiment on March I4, I777 , was Discharged on March I4, I78I. Note,John and James both signed up on the same day and were discharged on the samel day. It does not seem likely that this soldier John could be Planter John. It is reasonable to think that he could serve his Country better by keeping his three farms at peak production. There may be other records that would identify them but I did not see it ~~[illegible]~~

John 4 made and signed his Will May 8th , I800. I did not find the date of his death, The Will was Probated March 3rd , I80I. I gave his Will in the quick run-down on page 5I.

John Valliant and Nicholas Valliant appear in Md. State Council Correspondence for period : I778-I780. -page I55. ,(In Maryland Archives) Quote :- "Ordered-- Lieutenant Skinner to take possession of for the purpose of transporting Am. troops from Elk River, Md. to points in Virginia,the several sailing":-- (named and among them these two-JLV.) "Schooner SALLY ,Nicholas Valliant and boat POLLY, John Valliant. ------Impressed for the purpose of transporting a detachment of the American Army to the State of Virginia-and- when you arrive at the head of Elk River you are to apply to Colonel Hollingsworth for further orders. Five vessels to be under Skinner and four vessels under Ewing".

I credit this record to John 4 ,the son-in-law of Anthony LeCompte .Although farming and shipping seem oddly mated activities, But it is to be remembered that John's father was described as "Carpenter" and there was a "Shipyard-Of-John Valliant", at which yard a 22 ton schooner lay when sold by Thomas Valliant. From this it appears that the three brothers are all interested in shipping, a logical result where the father before them had been a ship-carpenter.

An odd note in the history of these "Johns" is that a John Valliant died in 1797, John 4 died in 1801----his son John died in 1802 , Thomas died in 1806. I found no Will of Nicholas.....neither a date of his death. It took me a long time to accept Thomas Valliant of Caroline as one of the three ship-owning brothers. However Thomas does not appear in the record as a farmer until ten years after the sale of his 22 ton schooner at his brother's shipyard in 1764. If the ship-owner and the Caroline farmer are indeed one then he must have married twice (not an unusual occurance ,nowadays at least. Thomas first married Rachel Grace (1737) but when he made his will he named his Wife-Esther. If Thomas of Caroline is not also Thomas the ship-owner, The latter has a brief record indeed. With the multiplication of similar and contemporary names I will begin using my geneological "Ear-Marks".....explained in the introduction. Thomas' number is 42-3I ------ which means that he is of the 4th generation ----that he is the second of that generation to be listed or numbered. The second two figures ,following the - is the "Number" belonging to his father. If you want to know who his grand father is ,find that father- number in the FIRST column of figures-----behind or following it will be the number belonging to grandfather. Thomas' brother John is 4I-3I. ---Nicholas' number is 43-3I. This may seem cumbersome at first but it is shorter and more definite than using a descriptive sub-paragraph. I will use the numbers only when necessary to keep identities straight.

I am going to give all of the Record that I found relating to Thomas.....maybe in the details some one will pick out the fact or figure that will prove whether or not Thomas of Caroline is indeed or is not,one of the three ship-owning brothers. To be sure I leave out nothing I set it down in the order it is in my note book,that is ,order in which I dug up the entrys. The very first happens to be his Will Record at Denton,County Seat of Caroline.----- WILLS Lib. J.R. #6 , page 107. ~~Inventory~~ Recorded Aug. 12 , 1806. It provides :-- "To wife Esther : use of the new house and negroes for her life, Son Thomas to share the new house.

"To Grand-daughter Kitty (Hopkind),negro girl and $25.00
"To Grand-son Denny Hopkins,negro boy & $25.00,
"To Grand-daughter,Esther Flaherty negro girl &$25.00
"To Grandson Charles Flaherty negro boy & $25.00
"To son Thomas,Jr. Tract- Valliants Delight. Also my book-case and still,----He to pay his sister Elizabeth Flaherty 25 Pounds.

To son Hugh, Tract:Clark's Desire and tract : Piney Point and my gun and a slave.

Slave Betty to be Free and then female slaves to be Free at Twenty-five years.

Executors; Wife Esther and son Thomas.
Executors to pay debts to Charles Blair's Estate."

WITNESSES :-James Parrot, William Green, Thomas Semore."

Thomas' wife made a Will, dated November 27 ,I806.
Recorded in Caroline WILLS Libr. C.(I703-I725) page I55.

"In perfect healuh, to my two daughters ,Elizabeth Flaherty and Rachel Hopkins,all my Estate. My negro slaves to be free at my death"

Executors John Flaherty a, Richard Hopkins.
Will was probated September I2 , I809.
Witnesses, Sophia Edmondson,Montgomery Denny,Thomas Richardson ".

In the Census of I778 Thomas Valliant registered at Mellville Warehouse. (where County Courts were then held)

In I777--July 2I. Caroline LAND Record,Lib. A. Pg.226. "To Thomas Valliant, from Benoni Banning and wife Ann, tract of land for I60 Pounds, I6 Shillings, out of that tract called Clark's Desire, being I53 acres, a tract devised to Benoni Banning and wife Ann by her father Abraham Clark.

I785, Feb. 27 . Caroline, Lib. G.F.A. page [illegible].
Indenture between Thomas Valliant of Caroline County,farmer er, and John Stevens of Walter,Caroline County, Md. ,farmer, for IO Pounds, Clarks Desire from the said Valliant"

Signed ---Thomas Valliant
Esther Valliant
Apparently Clark's Desire is mortgaged.

I786, June 9. Caroline,BARGAINS,INDENTURES& SALES, P.5.
"Thomas Valliant received from John Willoughby a Deed to a tract called New Foundland,, on payment of the sum of IO Pounds ,5 Shillings.

I79I, June 20 . Caroline DEED Book, C. page 363.
Thomas Valliant received from James Clark of Talbot County and Prudence Seewdrack of Dorchester County, a Deed to Piny Point in Caroline County,-----"that undivided third part of that tract called Piney Point,lying and being in Caroline County aforsaid, containing and laid out for 250 acres,be the sa same more pr less" Recorded in Caroline INDENTURES, BARGAINS and SALES , page "IO This sale confirmed by mort mortgage,by same parities,same land in Caroline DeEEDS, book C. page 363

I778, Aug. I9. Caroline Court MINUTES.
Thomas Valliant and William Robinson become Securities "For the proper conduct of an "Ordinary" by Joseph Millihin near Murray's Mill ".

I778, Aug. I9 I778,
Thomas Valliant granted a lisconse tc keep an

Ordinary for one year at his house at the cross-roads near Kingstown".

"Sureities, Alexander Waddell , Macabees Alford."
Caroline County Court MINUTES.

I773----no Date "Thomas Valliant, Fined IO Pounds for selling liquor without liscense."
Caroline County Court MINUTES.

I779, October Session. "Thomas Valliant fined two Pounds for selling liquor above the legal rate"
Caroline County Court MINUTES.

I780, June 2I, " Isack Purkin here to the Court presents the following Petition, to wit:- "To the Worshipful Justices of Caroline County in Court sitting ; the Petition of Isack Purkin of the aforsaid County, showeth that he is unjustly held and detained as servant and slave by a certain Thomas Valliant of the said County, and therefore prays your Worships would take his case into consideration, and grant him such relief in the premises as to you shall seem meet, &. and as in duty bound yr. Petioner will ever pray. &. &. &.---- thereupon it is pronounced to the Sherrif of Caroline County, afrsd. that he summons the aforsaid Thomas Valliant to appear immediately before the Justices aforsaid to answer the Petition of the said Isack Purkin, who makes the Petition to the Court here. ---- --- -- That he hath summonsed the said Thomas Valliant to appear according to the essence of the same Summons. And, thereupon the said Thomas Valliant ,in his proper person did appear, and as well the Complainant, the said Isack Purkin. As the defence of the said Thomas Valliant being by the Court here, fully understood ; it is considered by the Court that the aforsaid Isack Purkin be discharged from the servitude of the said Thomas Valliant, and the Court here do now pronounce him free. And, it is further considered by the Court here that the aforsaid Thomas Valliant do pay unto the aforsaid Man Isack Purkin the sum of 22 Pounds and IO Shillings for his damages, costs and charges by him about his suit in this part appropriated unto the same Isack Purkin by the Court adjudged free &. &. ----"
Henry Downey, Sherrif---William Richardson, Clerk of Crt. Justices sitting :-- Richard Mason, Benson Strainton, Nathaniel Potter, Thomas Hardcastle "
Recorded in Caroline County Court MINUTES, --Wednesday , June 2I , I780

I780, June Session County Court MINUTES, Thomas Valliant . Liscense to conduct an Ordinary ,renewed ,at Cross Roads.

I780, October I3 Thomas Valliant signed Bond of Benjamine Denny for proper conduct of an Ordinary near Murray's Mill. Caroline County Court MINUTES .

[illegible] 1780, Jan. 27. Caroline County DEEDS, Book A , page 469. "ZACK, a Negro ,binds himself to Tho Thomas Valliant to serve him during his (Thomas V's) lifetime in return for food and clothing,shelter and Protection from harm".

"Zack" sounds so much like an abbeviation of Isack that it looks like this may be the Zack who bound himself to Thomas as servant in return for keep and protection. Of course no one could legaly bind himself to servitude so when Zack got tired of it and maybe well fed he asks for freedom and gets it. Thomas must have had a reputation as a Good Feeder in that community.

1792 . Thomas Valliant gave a Deed to Piney Point farm, to his daughter Rachel Hopkins. I did not get documentation onthis but on April 27, 1802, (which is recorded in C.F.A. page 813 also) ------"Came Rachel Hopkins ,wife of Richard Hopkins, and brought a Deed of Gift ; this Indenture between Thomas Valliant of Caroline County,farmer and Rachel Hopkins ,his daughter,(who intermarried with Richard Hopkins) for love and affection gives her the Land,Piney Point,between the lands of Thomas Valliant . "

his
Signed Thomas X Valliant "
mark.

Acknowledgement made by Esther Valliant.

1793 March 4. Caroline Co. MINUTES County Court. Thomas Valliant became Surety for Phillip Wells, et. al. as Retailer of Spirits.

1793, March 5. Caroline County Court Minutes. Thomas Valliant became Surety for Richard Ewing Retailer. (of what is not indicated.

That completes the record of Thomas as I found it. For him to fill the roll of being one of the three Boat-Building-Boat-owning-Brothers I had to assume that he married Rachel Grace when he was[illegible] 19, that she died without children and he married Esther. It is not an unlikely series of events for one lifetime, of 68 years. If I am wrong,then Thomas has to go into the Nicholas line,where I put most of the un-earmarked Valliants in that duck and fish infested country---where already ,from fishing,hunting,boating that tidal creek-laced-land,the Valliants were ,I suspect,becoming web-footed.

All but too late I find another entry in the Record about Tom. 1793, Thomas Valliant summoned for duty as Grand Juryman. Court at Nellville Warehouse. I might add for the Longhorns, that Nellville Warehouse is on the Choptank River at the head of navigation and about a mile and a half from the present sleepy-looking and soothing town of Denton. Present day Dentonians give the old "Landing-Place a wide berth. It is the site of a chicken process-for-market plant that must be about the World's Biggest.

From Thomas of Caroline and the Cross-Roads to his son Hugh. After Thomas' death in 1806 Hugh takes over most of the farming opperations, by terms of the Will. Hugh is in the Record the date of which is blurred ,but is before 1812 and after 1803-----probably 1809 or 9-----the 180 being legible. It is recorded in Caroline ,ADMINISTRATION,BONDS,WILLS page 165 It says :- "Hugh Valliant , Larry Valliant and Richard Hopkins gave Bond as Administrators of the Estate of John Flaherty." John Flaherty was Hugh's brother-in-law, husband of his sister Esther

1820, March 20 , in Caroline , Book M. page 645, Hugh Valliant acknowledges Debt to Garry Hitch ".

1826 , January (I found this in a memorandum transcript without documentation....it should be recorded in a volume like book M.) it says :- "Hugh Valliant acknowledges Debt of $1166.00 to Cary Hitch,and to satisfy that debt Hugh Valliant "Conveys to Gary Hitch the Hog Creek Mill Ponds, called LOCKERMANS which had been Willed to said Hugh by his father,Thomas Valliant".

1827, May 10. --Caroline , Book P. page 456.-----"An Indenture between Hugh Valliant,Relender,his wife and William Hughlett for $120.00."

1827, March 16. --Caroline, Book N; page 48. records that an Indenture (Mortgage)made in May , 1820 but was not foreclosed until March 16 , 1827, between Hugh Valliant and Gary Hitch of Caroline, comprised lands called "Lockermans" and 1/3 part of Mill Pond, which descended to the heirs of Riders Bozman and Henrietta Bozman,his wife".

1819, April 20. Caroline DEEDS; book J.M. page 423. An Indenture Made but not Recorded, May 19----1820. March 29th. Between Richard Hopkins and wife Rachel Hopkins of Talbot County and Hugh Valliant of Caroline County,for $450.00 for lands Piney Point with houses, lying between lands of Thomas Valliant and heirs of Doctor Andrew Mitchel"

Signed - Richard Hopkins
Acknowledged by Rachel Hopkins."

1823, Sept. 25. Caroline, Book O. page 270. "Lands sold by the Sheriff of Caroline County, mortgaged by Hugh Valliant to William Hughlett on Feb 27 , 1820, being all lands willed to Hugh Valliant by his father Thomas Valliant and lands sold to Hugh Valliant by Richard Hopkins of Caroline County ".

1832, Feb. 27th. --Caroline BONDS,book H-R-M-B, page 221. Hugh Valliant appointed Administrator of the property of his wife Relender Parlton Valliant, Testatora,

Fred Holbrook & Rosea Satterfield ".

1815, Jan. 24th. An Index to DEEDS of Dorchester County, in the Court House at Cambridge says :- "Deed to Hugh Valliant from Thomas Laddin, for $350.00 ". I did not locate thee Record book itself. ------What is all I found on this Hugh. Next comes his brother Thomas.

Thomas Valliant, the first mentioned in his father's Will but probably the younger son, since he is to occupy the New House with his mother and receives the farm Valliant's Delight. I found him but once in the Record, and that was his Will. He died young. He married Ann Tarlton the year before his father Thomas died. His wife was probably sister of Helender of Helender, Hugh's wife. Their marriage is listed in Caroline Marriage Liscenses, in 1805. Both children are under ten years old. Thomas Jr's. Will is dated May 3, 1815. It is recorded in Caroline , Book C-J-R (period 1803-1829) page 273. The Will ------- "I, Thomas Valliant, sick and weak leave to my loving wife Ann and to my children; Polly Valliant and Thomas Valliant and to ------?---Valliant, to them unknown, share and share alike. Thomas Richard to be my Executor"

Signed---Thomas Valliant.

Witnesses :- Abel Corry , Richard Hopkins, James Brannock, Thomas Richardson.

Will Probated June 19 , 1815.

Thus ends the Record . Thomas Jr, of Valliant's Delight Farm. The Unknown son later appeared to claim his share of the farm and sell it. His name was Henry Valliant.

Of the son of Thomas an Ann Tarlton Valliant I have only the record that they sold their interest in Valliant's Delight and signed the Deed Sept, 30th, 1851. The purchaser was was Collins Waddell. The Deed was signed by Thomas Valliant and Wife Elizabeth.

The only time that the Unknown Henry appears in the Record is in Carolline DEEDS book X, page 418,----Henry Valliant sells to Robert H.McNett his share--164 acres, of Valliants Delight--"All the land left him by the last Will and Testament of Thomas Valliant to his children, Polly, Thomas and ------Valliant, unknown to them".

That winds up the record, of I gathered it , of Thomas of the Cross-Roads in Caroline, and one of the three boat-owning-sailing Valliants of Trod Avon.

Before passing on , Im must make a correction-Thomas, not Hugh is the elder of Thomas' sons. Thomas married Ann Tarlton July 9th, 1803 and Hugh married Helender Tarlton on Feb. 2nd 1805.

Daniel Valliant is another Valliant whose father we do not

know. He was probably one of the Johns who got married back in the Seventeen-fifty period as John Valliant who married Eliza Cook in 1747 or the "John Valliant, [illegible]," [illegible] aged 50, who married Mary Omealy, daughter of Bryan Omealy, ---or the John Valliant who married Ann Robinson of Royal Oak about 1760, whose daughter Ann Valliant was born December 11, 1765 : to become the beauty who won the heart of Seth Sweetser on first sight of her. All living near each other but not sons of John and Joseph of Tred Avon. These three Johns with Daniel and Robert make up an age group impossible to account for except as Grandsons of Nicholas, or even possible Great-Grand-sons.

Daniel lived in Caroline County. He married Elizabeth Alford. It was issued at Mellville Warehouse, Jan. 29 1787. Recorded in Caroline County MARRIAGE LISCENSE --1774-- 1815. I found it also in a compilation of Md. marriages in the Library of Congress-----Biographical Division--Vol. number F 187-- C2-C9.

1792 Oct. 12, Daniel Valliant allowed 1 day's pay for Jury duty. Caroline County Court MINUTES. Two days later another day's pay was ordered paid Daniel for another, like service.

1795, December 13, 1795, Caroline WILLS, Liber, J.R. # [illegible] page 318, "The Will of Daniel Valliant :"Ill, To son William and his heirs, all the Estate"

Executors James Brannock. ---Witnesses John Harrison William Harrison, Rachel Wilcut.

Probated, February 8th., 1796. This Will is preserved now at Denton----Box #9, Folder #43.

1798 At the June Session Of the Orphans Court, James Brannock rendered a statement to the court on the account of of the Estate of Daniel Valliant. :-----

Expenses, Sickness, Death # &. Burial, 10 Pounds, 9 Shillings 6 3/4 pence

Total of Estate 270 pounds; 6 shillings; 10 1/2 pence.
Less expense, total 10 " ; 9 " ; 6 3/4 2
Ballance-remainder 259 " 17 " ; 3/4 " ".

Caroline County Administration of ACCOUNTS, Period, 1787---1800.

It is not clear whose sickness, death and burial, Daniels or son William's is being accounted for-------- is 3 years after the death of Daniel. I did not go further into the record of William the son of Daniel. Anything I find on him, William, will go [illegible] on a supplimentary page later.

[illegible] back to the descendants of John of Tred Avon----John who married Mary LeCompte (daughter of Anthony LeCompte) and his son John who married Elenor Rigby. Resumption begins with John and Elenor. Elenor is the daughter of Moses Rigby. They, John and Elenor, were married May 2nd 1786.

To this marriage Elenor brought a considerable dowery. The Rolls say she was 28 years old but I think this an error in transcribing. John was only 18--born in 1768. Elinor was more likely 18. John was born November 5th., 1767. The details of Elenor's ~~[illegible]~~ dowery are recorded in Talbot CHANCERY Papers # 5275 and in CHANCERY Lib. Folio 405--35. Also Land Office, Folio 36--39.

1793 June 10, ORPHAN'S COURT, Minutes Talbot County-period 1787 ---1795. John Valliant appointed Guardian of and manager of the Estate of Ann Rigby and Reta Rigby, orphan daughters of Moses Rigby. A bond of 200 Pounds was given. The Sureities were Hugh Orem and Philip Rigby.

1794,---John Valliant leased from Arthur Rigby "Lumberton and "Rigby's Choice" for a five year period. Rent 15 Pounds per year". from Talbot Deed book # 26, page 16.

John was less than 35 years old when he died, May June 5th, 1802. Will recorded Talbot WILLS, Vol. J.P. # 9, page 468. Signed June 24th 1802.-----"John Valliant, his Will: ---- To wife Elenor, the Home plantation, --- -- -- To son Hugh at her death or marriage. Remainder of the Estate to my four other children: John, Mary, Rigby and James".

Executors :- Wife Elenor & Moses Sherewood.

Witnesses :- Nicholas Watts, Samuel Watts & Thomas Bruff.

The Will was probated July 27, 1802 by Elenor Valliant & Moses Sherewood.

1802, August 10, Elenor, wife of John Valliant (deced) relinquishes her Legacy from husband John and claims her Dower Rights". as recorded in Chancery #5275....and Land Office FFol 36-39. Note----it may be in the recital of relevant facts as part of this original Dowery document that the ages matter gets mixed. This paragraph appears:- ---------- John Valliant married Elenor Rigby, daughter of Moses Rigby, on May 2nd. 1786, aged 28 years. The recording clerk may have intended that date or age to describe John's age.... (the latter seems a more reasonable interpretation of the text, although it sounds like Elenor's age is being given.

Now to Jeremiah the son of John and Mary (LeCompte) Valliant, who was under 21 when his father's Will was made. Born about 1785, I think it will be enough that of this "Modern" Valliant I give only his WILL. Jeremiah married Harriet Smith, October 7th., 1812. He is the originator of the Ghost of Plaindealin, as related by Harrison in his History of Talbot County, on pages 549-50-51.

Jeremiah's Will is recorded in Talbot WILLS, Vol. J-HH # 10, page 66. It provides :- "To my son John Valliant "Fishing Neck" where he now resides, and all his farm; also 15 acres of woodland. ----------

-----To my daughter, Mary Harrington, $700.00. To my son-in-law Joseph Harrington----------if he shall pur-

chase the farm "Hickory Ridge" at the original cost. ---
To my son Robert B. (Samuel) Valliant, all land called "Bar Neck" purchased from Jane Coulter for $1000.00---$400.00 in yearly instalments--to be clear of widows Dowry. ----------
To my daughter Harriet Jane Harris, $700.00. ---------
To my son William H. Valliant, $250.00.----------
To my wife Harriet, I Negro for life and ------description of land on Tilghman's Island. ----------
To my son, Lloyd N. Valliant, $500.00 ----------
To my son Hugh B. Valliant, $500.00 ----------
TO my sons Lloyd N. --Hugh B. ----Thomas S. ---Joseph B. -- and Samuel R. my estate on Sharp's Island. To my unfortunate lunatic son Jeremiah, I give a home on Sharp's Island for life. My business to continue for six years. Lloyd N. & Hugh B. to remain on farms for six years."

Signed Jeremiah Valliant.

Witnesses :- Hugh B. Valliant, John Valliant

Probated Aug 7th, 1851

Recorded in Talbot WILLS, Vol. J*H*H #10, page 66.

Note:---there are noticeable differences in the transcript of Jeremiah's Will which I copied and the copy of the Will furnished to Mr. Joseph Valliant of Baltimore by Genealogist He leaves out much that I have and lacks some text that his has. For son William he has :- "To my son William, $250.00, I give this small amount because he has received from a kindred friend a bequest which is double what I have given him. I divide with the rest of my children"---- I do not have

F"Farming before "Business. His version says "To wife Harriet a Negro man and others in lieu of her relinquishment of her Dower on my Estate on Tilghman's Island".....but there are my copyist and transcribers who get lost in the little things.

The Witnesses to Jeremiah's Will are Hugh of Caroline, and cousins, sons of John and Elenor (Rigby) Valliant

Jeremiah's Widow Harriet died in 1864. Her Will was probated March 28, 1865. It is recorded in Book T. N. C. # II, page 371. ---------- " To my son Hugh, my interest in Sharp's Island and two Negroes. At death of son Lloyd's w wife Angelina, I wish Lloyd to have her Negroes, --to grandson, John Valliant Harrington, my farm Hickory Ridge, my daughter Mary his mother to hold during her life. My grandson to pay his sisters, Harriet Mary, Ida, Clara and Nellie $200.00. To son Samuel his farm, Island, at Bar Neck. To son Joseph the note I have against him by his brother William. To son Thomas $700.00 and a Negro. To son William $700.00 and a Negro. To daughter Mary, Negroes. To grandson Owen Steddon Harris a Negro boy. To grandsons Harriet Smith Valliant a Negro. Remainder to John, William, Joseph, and Harriet, whose portion goes to her daughter Harriet Rebecca Harris. Son Thomas to be Executor." --- ---signed

Harriet Valliant
Witnesses :- John Valliant, Ash. Valliant , Mary Lowe.

As this family ,a numerous one,looms large in the Valliant picture I will quote, the Muster Roll for our convenience. Remarkin,in passing it along,that from the birth of father to the death of son spanned a stream of History one hundred years wide,the most eventful since written history began.
The sons ------- of Jeremiah & Harriet----Daughters

---- John, got"Fishing Neck" Mary (harrington)
---- Robert Samuel "Bar Neck". Harriet Jane(Harris)
---- William H. ,250 00
---- Lloyd N. --$500.00
---- Hugh B. --$500.00
---- Jeremiah--(demented) Home for life.

I have not had opportunity to collect much from the Record of Jeremiah's family.
John received Fishing Neck and a tract called Hickory Ridge,or a part of Hickory Ridge----frequently mentioned in land Sales and Deeds--Wills. For this however ,john must pay $1500.00 still due on the property.
William H. received a smaller money share than his brothers because he had lately been the beneficiary of a kinsman's will much greater than a brother's share of the Estate. Incidentaly , William H , is the namesake of of William H. of Bellevue and son of Samuel R. For many years William H (the younger) and brother Jeremiah [illegible] operated a sea-food and vegitable cannery at Bellevue. Over a period of years he re-acquired lands once a part of Cumberland,Easons Addition and Cove Hall,that had been out of Valliant hands for over fifty years. His sons William H. Jr. and J. Norman live on and operate the farms. William H. Jr. is Postmaster at Bellevue. From Cousin Bill and all the Tred Avon family I have received gratifying encouragement in my burrowings into Valliant history. [illegible]
Samuel Robert sometimes Robert Samuel, the second son of Jeremiah and Harriet, and, the father of William H.Sr. of Bellevue died at Bellevue some twenty -five years ago. William H. died there in 1949 Or 50.
Another son of Robert Samuel,Jeremiah lived most of his life at Oxford, across Tred Avon from Bellevue. He has been dead some years. His widow ,Cozie Sudo, still lives in the old home and with her a daughter Mrs Ned Willis--Louise and Ned. Son Robert and family live next door to Cozie Sudo. Another son, Jeremiah and family live in Salisbury. Another daughter,married, lives in Easton.

Mother of Jeremiah and Harriet, Lloyd Lloyd N. , Who was living in Baltimore
when he died,November 9, 1875,
always claimed Talbot County as his home. He lived near the

Light Street bridge in Baltimore. He was burried in the family burying ground on Sharp's Island. (His brother William H. , and, I think, Father Jeremiah ,also burried there, were moved to the old Colston burying ground on Cumberland, when the sea carried most of Sharp's Island away. It was William H. the son of Robert Samuel who transfered their remains) Lloyd N. names no children in his will. He named Edward Harris, his brother-in-law to administer his estate.

Before going back to pick up the nuts thread in the family [illegible] I should remark that on the banks of Tred Avon with the families of Jeremiah and William H. Valliant I have ended the [illegible] three hundred and fifty year long "trail" Valliant feet have made. It will be physicaly impossible to bring this trail to the door of all living Valliants, but for a few more I make the effort.

Next:

Hugh son of John and Elenor(Rigby) Valliant, Born Oct. 15 , 1794 , Died July (, 1851. Married Mary Stevens Feb. 25 , 1825. Sons George and Adam Clark, Daughter Ann.

Marriage License at Cambridge, Dorchester County.

1830, Jan. 26. Hugh, John and Rigby Valliant receive a Deed from John Bell for lands in Dorchester County. recorded in DEEDS , Book # 10 , page97.

1815, Jan. 16. Dorchester County, To Hugh Valliant from Thomas Lambden---a Billiol sale for a Negro, live stock and household goods. Also, on samed date received a Deed from the same Lambden for a tract of land, 21 1/4 acres, "Part of a tract, Eccleston's Addition Neck Addition".

1819, March 4th, Hugh sells this same described land back to Lambden.

1821 August 15, Hugh, John and Rigby Valliant all of Dorchester County, received a Deed from John Bell for a tract of land, 110 3/4 acres & 5 Perches, less 16 acres called Discovery, part of Addition to Discovery Meadows, for $200.00 ".

1815, Jan. 24 , To Hugh [illegible] Valliant from Thomas Lambden, Lands (not described) for (£ $250.00.

Recorded Dorchester LANDS, book H-D #2 ,page 486.

Now is John Valliant, brother of Hugh (above) John born September 17 , 1794 (son of John and Elenor (Rigby) Valliant. Died September 3 , 1851. Married Mary Clendenny , Feb. 22 , 1826.

Have nothing to offer now to add to the above

Next is Rigby Valliant , Born April 6 , 1799 , Died March 28, 1850, Married Nancy Ferguson Stevens, Sept. 6 , 1826.

Rigby and Nancy raised a family of [illegible]--one daughter, Martha. Sons, James, William Wallace, Thomas Rigby, Edwin Stevens, George Enos and John. It was from the sons of Rigby and Nancy that the second Emmigration to the West came (from the Valliant family. (Note---I have two lists of the Rigby & Nancy family, the above is incomplete; the complete list follows) I omit those dieing in infancy.

James, born 1827, in Caroline Co. lived most of his life about St Michaels. He is the family Historian. Furnished the material for the Valliant Family chapters in Biographical Dictionary of Maryland. It is with Mr James that I differ in the order of the generations and and about which son married Mary LeCompte. I think Mr James quoted tradition--- Anthony LeCompte's Will says she married John.

2 William Wallace, born 1829 in Somerset Co. died 1862. Had no son William "Went West" in 1853. He settled in Clarksville, Tenn. The daughter born there returned to the Eastern Shore, Talbot County. Married Larry Skinner, lived near Royal Oak. William's brother, George Enos, joined him at Clarksville after the end of the Civil War.

3 Thomas Rigby, Born 1835 in St. Michaels, corner of Mulberry and Talbot streets. Thomas Rigby went West just before the Civil War settled at Platt City Kansas---lived some time near Kansas City. He had two sons Darst and Thomas. These went on to California. Darst lived at Hollister, Thomas near Sanfrancisco. In interesting side-light on Thomas Rigby is a letter reffered to Mrs Virginia Lightfoot who has done some research work in Valliant history. The letter written by Mrs. Charles Dunn, is self-explanatory.

Washington, D.C.
Nov. 16, 1931

Mrs. Chas. C. Dunn

Dear Madam :-

I am an old woman nearing my 89th birthday-Feb. 20, 1932.

Away back in 1860 I lived at Atchison, Kansas, and one of my friends there was a Mr. Valliant from somewhere in Maryland. In those days girls seldom called young men by their (first) names, so I am uncertain about Mr. Valliant--but think his first name was Thomas. (note, it was Thomas RJLV)

When the Civil War broke out a number of us went over into Missouri to live. For a while I lost sight of Mr. Valliant but we both drifted Platt City Missouri. Later Mr. Valliant studied for the Ministry and became an Episcopal clergyman.

I see by the Washington Post Star of Nov. 5th that you were a Miss Valliant, and I am wondering if you are a relative of my friend of the Long-Ago.

Mr. Valliant went into the Southern Army and fought

through the Civil War.
It would give me pleasure to get in touch with relatives of my old friend.
I believe he spelt his name with two Ls, Valliant.

Hoping to hear from you I remain,

Very truly
Louise S. Weightman
1412 Chapin St N.W.
Washington, D.C.

I did not learn whether or not Mrs Weightman met the relatives of that Long-Ago. I should have, myself, liked to meet that friend who through Seventy years of living never lost interest in her girl-hood friend.
now back to the other sons an daughters.

4 Nancy Stevens Valliant born, St Michaels June 22 1837. In the house that later was for many years the M.E. Church Parsonage.

5 Mary Rebecca, Born, 1841, in St. Michaels.

6 George Enos, born 1843 in St Michaels. Married ---?--- Stacker, Died at Albuquerque, New Mexico, 1924. George Enos followed his brother William Wallace to Clarksville Tenn. immediately after the Civil War. Their children were, George Stacker, Rigby, Hugh (died in infancy) Martha, who never married. The sons :-

I George Stacker, born Clarksville Tenn. 1876. When still quite young, his father moved to Pine Bluff Ark, where he grew to young manhood. 1902 the family (after the Mother's death, moved to Texarkana, Ark) and lived there till 1914 When they moved to Albuquerque N.M. There George married in 1914, Elizabeth Page, of Winslow Ark. I had some correspondence with Mr. George before his death in 1951. I am indebted to him for several items of fami;y history. He suggested I let him print the Valliant Story.-----He and son, George Page conducted a commercial printing plant in Albuquerque N.M. It is continued under the managment of young George, a vetran of World War two and father of two children---boys to carry on the line. The other son of George Enos ----------Rigby Valliant now a Retired Colonel of the Army, lives at Vienna, Virginia ---on the Eastern Shore. At the end of World War One, when I first heard of other Valliants. I was in Baltimore-----and Mr. was given or got the address of Rigby Valliant---a young Army Officer. Other young men at the same address knew him-----called him "Rig"-----but he was out. Someday I will renew my call....I hope. Now back to the family of Rigby and Nancy.

Number 7. Edwin Stearns Valliant, born 1845 at St. Michaels

but lived most of his life at Church Hill Md. He had two sons, William and Edwin S. William lived in St Michaels and died there. Edwin Stern's one daughter, married and lives in Centerville--- I do not have her name. The other son, Edwin S. lives in Centerville. He has two sons. The elder was killed in World War Two. James, the younger is associated with his father in the manufacture of commercial fertilizers at Centerville. I am indebted to Mr Edwin for the opportunity to study and copy from a large portfolio of Valliant family history collected by his brother William.

7 , Sarah Ferguson Valliant , born St Michaels 1847.

8 , John born St Michaels , 1849 -- had one son Rigby who for many years was with the New Jersey Division of the Bell telephone Co.

In leaving the Family of Rigby and Nancy I would note that it is the largest and most versatile family of our clan that I have encountered. The activities of its members encompass the whole span of the United States.-----Thomas and Darst (Grand-sons) who went to California --around Holister, and San Jose--Gilroy and Fresno-----numerous families of descendants. When they first went out to California they opperated a vinyard and winery, producing all from their own vines. Valliant Wine became widely known for its quality and flavor-------so much so that a few years ago it was acquired by an Eastern corporation that still exploits its name and reputation. On a recent visit to the vinyard the new manager complimented me with several bottles of their choice est vintage. I am not surprised it held a reputation. In this connection I am reminded of a story I like to tell. It shows we are not all out of sympathy with the square-toed virtues of Rigby--the First, that grandson Victor of St Michaels like to tell. It is like this:-

"A year or so ago Mrs Lossie(Valliant) Raymond was being driven by her son-in-law and daughter(who live at Santa Ana) through central Calif. Going toward Holister they passed a sign saying "To Valliant Winery". The daughter after reading it said : "Mother lets turn in here and see about this Valliant Winery, may be they are some of our kinfolks " ----"Not mine, all my kinfolks are respectable people"-----was the prompt reply of Cousin Lossie-----the widow of Rev. Rodney Reveaud Raymond, a Methodist Episcopal minister ; renound for his zeal and piety, and, besides that a good judge of horse-flesh.

While we are with the Rigby & Nancy family , I must relate Mr. Victor's story about his strait-laced grandfather Rigby, told me when I spent a pleasant day with him during the progress of Operation Granpaw in 1949 : Though blind cozin Victor is still a lively and congenial, entertainer. His wife who was Nina Faithful is a happy choice. Said cozin Victor :- "Father used to tell us (Victor's father is James, the Historian, remember) how much easier we had things than he did when he was a boy. When Sunday come,

it was SUNDAY--all day. Once he heard sister Sarah singing an impious ditty,"Charlie do you love Me"on a sunday and he smacked her lips. ----Another time he caught me reading the "Scottish Chiefs" on Sunday and gave me a sound threshing. He did'nt believe in spoiling children by sparing the rod,and he did'nt do it. ----------when we went to church we liked singing better than listening.--------Once some younger Stewards bought a harmonium organ and put it in the Church to help the music. In a week or so father and some of the other Elders got together in a meeting and decided such a machine in Church was sacriligious-----so a few nights later they got together took the little Machine,put it in a boat,rowed out in the bay and dumped it overboard. With all these memories ,when I grew up I joined the Episcopal Church' ----------and,they,his children, still are. ---------
During our talks ,I ventured the opininion that all Valliants in the U.S were most llikely of the same blood. " Not so," said Mr. Victor." There was So and So Valliant who found a baby boy on his porch one morning. He later adopted it and gave it his name...So there is one Valliant who is not a blood-born Valliant. I admited that there might be such a Valliant. "Butthat is not the only no-kin Valliant I know about", he said, "When I was working for the New York Edison a man asked me if I had any kinfolks living in Hobokin, I told him I did'nt know of any"-----he said he knew of some and one day when I had nothing else to do I went looking for the address he gave me. I found the street all right,but when I begin to get near the number the street was getting so shabby and dirty that I about decided I did'nt want to meet these Valliants.-----but I did keep on,found the number and knocked . A woman answered but she could'nt speak English I could understand. Then she called to a youngster. He came in to talk to me , in pretty good English. He said they were Greek people , but their father had changed his name when he was a fireman on a yacht. It was named Valiant. It belonged to Mr. Vanderbilt. The men could'nt say his father's Greek name so they called him John and the captain added Valiant to it."-------And"there, said Mr. Victor are more Valliants or Valiants no kin to us"---a house full of them". A good story for family historians to keep in mind. Nor , is that all of the story . I am collecting the names of all contemporary Valliants I come across. When I was in Baltimore I talked Mr. Gordon Valliant's daughter, Martha-(if I recall it correctly) When I told her I was going on to Chicago, she said one of the family lived there the last she knew of him.--gave me his name. When I got to Chicago a couple of weeks later I did find a Valiant in the telephone directory. I called the number and was answered by a feminine voice so soft and musical I was captivated at once and anxious to know more about such melodious voiced kinswoman. I asked he if she was a Maryland Valliant She said No. I replied that I had never known anyValliants who were not kin to the Maryland Valliants. Then that voice:

"No,we are not Maryland . Our name was not always Valliant... We are Great! " It is a mighty little World we live in.

Before leaving the Rigby Valliant "Line" ,another interesting note A daughter of Mrs. Vardu Valliant Robinson married a WEYMOUTH .....I have not yet learned whether he is an Eastern Shore Weymouth or not . If he is "Eastern Shore' it is the second time in family history a Valliant daughter married a Weymouth---a marriage between kinfolk-------but distant by two hundred and fifty years.

Now back to Robert Spencer Valliant Last we saw of him he had sold a sizeable stock of household goods in Place Inn County. This sale may be taken as his final action in preparation for emmigrating to the Great West---which in that day extended only to the Mississippi River. We have no direct record of his going , but the birth of a child to Martha indicates that they traveled by the Northern rout, that is to say first over the Cumberland Trail from Hagerstown Md, to the Ohio River down that river to the Tennessee and up that river to their destination---above Muscel Shoals to a site that is now a suburb of Huntsville, Ala. ...whether then...the whole area was called Mississippi Territory. It was not a "Lonesome Road " for the tide of settlers moving West had already begun to flow. So heavy was this traffice that Thomas Jefferson in 1802 made the so called Cumberland Trail a National Highway and it was paved with stones all the way to the Ohio. The river Journey must have been made by barge. We do not even know the year in which Robert Spencer settled on this Huntsville farm. This farm consisted of 160 acres ---the South-West Quarter of Section Six in the township now covered in part by the thriving city of Huntsville. The Patent number is 3003. The site of the farm is now (in part) calleda College Hill Addition. The South side of the "Quarter Section is still in cultivation.....after over 125 years. The day we were there a man and woman were chopping cotton--or rather hoeing it. We had our lunch near the center of the property. The owner of one of the brick cottages offered us lunch and the privilage of bath and toilet.

Robert's and Martha's family grew up and married here--- except one. Their children Were :--

son.
James, born Md. May 10 ,1795 , died 1839. Wife Margaret Thomp

Sarah, " " Feb.13 1797

Dolson Harlock July 1799,died 1844, Wife Narcissa Killpatrick.

Elizabeth,born Jan.16,1801

Vashti,born Feb. 15, 1803---married Richard S. Brooks. (late;- about 1945 this Brooks Family grandchildren or great

grand children, living in Melrose, New Mexico, visited Mrs. Lossie Valliant Raymond---told her that their grand-mother was a Valliant. They Did not know much about her, the grand-mother.

William Taylor, born September 3, 1806 (in Kentucky) Married married Margaret Hussey, died March 14, 1865. Burried at Old Souls Chapel burying ground, -N-near McCondy Miss.

Martha, born January 29, 1808.

Jackson ? this line was so faded and blurred that it could not be read. A jackson Valliant lived in that area later, it is thought he may have been the one described in the lost line.

Robert C. born 1812. died [illegible] may 14, 1854, wife Martha B. Moultri, who was born 1820 and Died 1889. Robert C. went to Tennessee, Obion County, where he married and where his father and mother joined him to spend the rest of their lives.

Of Robert Spencer's life in Alabama, there is not much in the Record. In 1822, July 18 Robert Spencer Valliant filed a suit against Timothy Mershan--- in the Court of Judge Josiah Jones, (County Judge). I did not find the result of the suit. When I visited Huntsville, I received valued assistance from Probate Judge Jones...but unrelated to Josiah. In 1832 Robert Spencer Valliant and Martha his wife gave a Deed to their farm (the S.W. 1/4 [illegible] of Section 6.) to George Horton. Deed given in May 1830, secured by mortgage and made absolute in 1832. It was before the latter date however, that Robert and Martha joined son Robert C. near Elbridge in Obion County Tenn. He does not appear in the Land Records there. Other records of that period have either been lost or destroyed. A Grand daughter of Robert C's remember that her father told her that Grandfather Robert S. died suddenly. That in apparent good health he had spent a day hunting, returned home sat down and died in his chair. He is burried in the cemetary of Davidson's Chapel at Elbridge. Family tradition says his son Robert C. was burried beside him. Robert C. and wife Martha Moultri are burried at the North-East corner of the cemetery. Fairly well preserved marble stone mark their graves. On the South side of Robert C's grave I dug through the top earth and found that the earth below had been disturbed---and I felt sure that the tradition concerning his burial place was correct. Robert C's tomb bears the earliest date of any tomb-stone there. The Birth-death-marriage register so often quoted is from the family Bible left by Robert C. It is still preserved by his great grand daughter Mrs. Betty Chiles of 1820 East Main Street Union City Tenn. Mrs. Chiles sent this bible to Mr. William E Valliant of Annapolis and St Michaels for him to see and copy it. Later she cut-out and sent the record pages to her sister Mrs. Mabelle Britt of Ignacio, Colorado. The pages

had not been returned at the time I visited Mrs. Chiles.

On my visit to Davidson's Chapel cemetery I found that the graves of Robert C. ,Martha and the tradition placed grave of Robert Spencer are outside the cemetery enclosure by several feet. With the permission of the owner of that adjoining property I built an enclosure for their graves,using steel post and plenty of barbed and woven wire fencing. This will last a long time but will in time require replacement. I would lend to see the grave of this Next Immigrant after Jean"Villain" permanently secured from decay and molestation.

Now to the children of Robert Spencer and Martha. I did not find records for all,will give what i have in the hope that other Valliants will come forward with notes and record memorandum to complete the gap.

James, the elder, born May 30, 1795, if not in Quee Ann, home of his father, then certainly in Dorchester County where Robert ,senior after the marriage to Martha,appears a number of times in Dorchester records. He grew to manhood in Madison County ---first appears in the Record when a liscense was issued to James Valliant and Margaret Thompson to marry by the County Clerk ,Madison County . It is recorded in MARRIAGES,book I , page300. Date March II, 1816. The Birth record shows that she was a year older than James. She was born in Tennessee,according to one statment I ran across, I do not recall where---the same source also said her father came to this country from Ireland. Our family tradition says that James was a member of the volunteer force from the Big Bend country that went overland along the Natchestrace to New Orleans as re-inforcment of Andrew Jackson then facing the British below New Orleans. This column arrived too late to take part in the battle. I studied the rolls of Alabama and Mississippi organizations raised for service in that final effort of Britain in that War of 1812. If not in "The Line" he musy have gone in some other capacity. My father must have heard the story from his father. ---heard it often.

James died December 21, 1838 on his farm in the Eastern Part of Lauderdale County(now Limestone County) I found this record in County Court House , Florence. The farm was half of Section 22 , Township 2, Range 9 West. ---now in Limestone County----I got directions and present owner, found the place readily as it lay on both sides of present Highway 72. The owner of a part along the hiway was Mr. Raymond Thigpen Who received me very graciously. He knew something of the history of the place. The origional home is now owned by Mr. LaMarr. Tennants occupy the place. The house,part log part frame,but now all boarded, old fashioned two rooms separated by wide hall. An Ell at the rear had a "shed room" one side and porch on the opposite. The second story ,I was told , had been "Added". The chimney at the East end of the main section was of rough stone, the

chimney at the west end was of brick. The entire house far gone with decay, though the foundation sills still appeared sound. They were hewn logs as were many of the frame timbers I could see. Porch and gallery posts decayed and renewed in part. Part of the barns were log and still used. The occupants were absent. I would say that the house was much more than a hundred years old. It faces on the "Old Road" which leads into Star Center on the old Florence-Huntsville road. It was to this house the young couple came and where Grandfather David T. his sister Martha and brother William C. were born, and where he continued to live after his father's death in 1858 and after his own marriage in 1859. That is that he continued to operate the farm for and with his mother. That would mean that in the house in which he was raised, if not born, he began his own married life and where three of his own sons(James Thompson Thomas and William were born.

The widow of James(Margaret) is in the Alabama census of 1840 as head of family:- 1 female 40 to 50, herself; 1 female, Martha, 15 to 20 and 1 male 10 to 15. William C. David T. is listed as head of family: 1 male 20 to 30; 1 female 20 to 30 and one male under 5 years old. This would be Uncle Jim,(Dr. James Thompson) actualy less than a year old.

As mentioned above, James died in 1858, still a young man, 43. His Will was signed March 20, 1858 and recorded, after his death, October 26th, 1858. Witnesses were John and William K. Nast. It is recorded in Lauderdale County WILLS, book A, page 61. It reads :---

"In the Name of God, Amen; I James Valliant, being strong in body and mind and memory, do make this my Last Will and Testament and wish all my Earthly effects to be disposed of in the following manner, to wit:--- First, I commend my soul to God who gave it and my body to be buried in a decent and plain manner. It is therefore my wish that all my effects be kept together till my youngest child be of lawful age, then I then want a division to be made of my Estate. Directly after my death I want $500.00 of my Estate to be given my son William C. Valliant, and then I want my Estae, entire personal and real estate to be equaly divided between my wife, Margaret and my son David T. Valliant and my daughter, Martha Jane Valliant and my son William C. Valliant; this division to take place as above, when my youngest child becomes of lawful age. It is also my wish that at my wife's death that part of my estate which she may draw in the above named dividend, shall be refunded back to my three living children.

Signed :- James Valliant

"Signed and acknowledged in Lauderdale County March 20, 1858."

Witnesses : John Nast Sr., William K. Nast."

There is no record found yet of the division of the Estate. There is some indication that it took place in 1865,

when William C. became 21 although there is no motion of him in the Record. It is possible he may have died. There is no record of the division but it is recorded that in 1847 David T Valliant sold 160 acres of land in Lauderdale County to Lewis Smith----recorded in DEEDS , book 9 , page 201 , Lauderdale County Court House ,Florence. In this same year,1846, when William C. was 21 and the property divided mother Margaret married To Thomas Powers (Dec. 8th, 1846) The officiating minister was Monroe F. Moses. That she retained her Widow's Portion is shown in the recorded final partition of James' Estate. Her death occured in late 1852 or early 53. At this date William C. is dead, Also Martha Janee is dead leaving two children ,who receive her portion. As this final Division is the last chapter of the James -Margaret record it is continued now although at this time David Thompson and Martha and her family have moved through Mississippi to Cuichata or Washita County Arkansas. Martha has died and her husband , David R. Jenkins and her brother David T. were appointed by The Cuichata County Court as guardian administrators of the two children she left.....that is under the direction of the Probate Court. The orders of the Cuichata Probate Court were carried out by the Probate Court of Lauderdale County ,Ala. It is set forth in detail ---recorded in MINUTES of the Probate Court Book A. (period 1850 to 1855) page 434.

" Probate Court on Vacation
October 14 1853.

"Came this day David T. Valliant and David R. Jenkins, Guardians of Tallopin R. Jenkins and Jessie D. Jenkins, and filed in said Court their petition in our said Court, suggesting the death of [illegible] Margaret Valliant the wife of James Valliant,who departed this life in the County of Lauderdale , State of Alabama, in the year 1836, leaving his last Will and Testament, and among other things and bequests in said Will he divided certain personal property ,consisting of Negroes,household furnature and other certain personal property , to his wife , the said Margaret, during her lifetime and at her decease to descend to the children of the [illegible] said James Valliant;(I believe that the record had it :"Said James T. Valliant)--and David T. Valliant and Talopius H. Jenkins and Irene D. Jenkins,who take in Sight of their mother,being the only surviving heirs of the said James T. Valliant and entitled to said Estate. ------

It is therefore Ordered by the said Court that Ephrim Shaffield, Pruly St.Hardin, Alfred Casey, Samuel H. Richardson and Benjamine F. Crittenden be appointed Commissioners to divide the said personal property belonging to the Estate of the said James T. Valliant, consisting of the following Negroes :- Charles , Adeline, Jo , Willie , Sterling , Manuel , Henry, John , David , Sarah , Lucy , Jane and some small articles of household furnature and one old and one young mare, in the following manner :- One half of value of said property they shall alot to David T. Valliant and the other half they shall

divide equaly between Talopius H. and Jessie D. Jenkins;

----"And further, that they make due return of this proceeding under this order at a term of our said Court to be held for said County on the Second Monday in November next

(signed) W.T. Hawkins, J. Probate ";

On page 496 of this same Book (Book A, --Period 1850-55./ Is the following entry, dated :--

" James T. Valliant Estate."

"The Commissioners heretofore appointed by the Judge of our Said Court to make distribution ~~among~~ of the Negroes and other personal property belonging to the said Estate, between David T. Valliant and the Heirs of Martha Jane Jenkins,now deceased, Viz.:-Talopius H. and Jessie D. Jenkins, therefore,and since the last Term of said Court, filed a report and distribution of said property----which report and proceedings, it is ordered by the Court, be received and Recorded.

"qAnd, David R. Jenkins,the guardian of said minors, Talopius H. and Jessie D. Jenkins, duly appointed by the Probate Court of Ouachita County, Arkansas, and having produced to the Judge of our said Court here,a Transcript of said Appointment,duly certified according to the Act of Congress of the United States of America-------it is further ordered that said David R. Jenkins be authorized to remove said property to the State of Arkansas,the County of Ouachita and account to the Court there for the same."

With the above comes the end of the affairs of James T. Valliant,elder son of Robert Spencer. Here I might note that only once or twice before had I found James' middle initial used. In these final adjudication records of his estate did I find the middle initial used regularly with his name. As indicated by the Record David T. is the only one of the three children surviving. I never heard of the Jenkins children until I found this record in Florence on the first of my two visits to that Court House in Florence. I have heard my father speak of Aunt Martha Jane,though I doubt if he was old enough at the time of her death to remember her. We have a Memento of her however,in a painting on velvet cloth---a cluster of grapes very skillfuly painted and with her name painted below : Martha Jane Valliant. This was found many years later between the leaves of the old family Bible of Dr. James T. Valliant(David T's Eldest son)who could remember her. Indeed , it is said Martha Jane was a close friend of the girl her nephew,Dr. Jim, married.....:- Mary Brandon. I have good reason to believe that my own Mother was named for Martha Jane ---the two families having been long associated. ...in Alabama and Arkansas both. Mother was Martha Jane Bran-

don; a niece of Mary Brandon, whose father James Brandon was a brother of my own maternal grand-father, Robert M. Brandon.

After the first instalment division of James T's Estate, son David T. and wife Margaret Rodgers sold their share and moved to the vicinity of Pontotoc, Miss. in 1848. As I could not find him in the land Records there it is possible he may have rented farm land from cousins or his Uncle, William T. about 25 miles south and East of Pontotoc. While living there sons LeRoy and David Edward were born. In 1851 ~~in~~ or early 52 he moved to then Chickasha County, where he was well established by 1853. Falcon was their Post Office,----some of their farm-land ~~in~~ lay along Bodcau Creek. He had seven adult Negroes. My father often spoke of them by name. David T. may have owned or farmed some land along Red River. I got that from what my father David Edward, told me. He said that down on this land it was so low and feverish that "It took a nigger and an aligator to live through a Summer"". I got the idea that he was being reminded of an unpleasant experience. Another impression I got of their old home was that "After the War the Negroes left and the land became worthless.....was "Sold for Taxes".....after the boys "Scattered". David T. and Margaret both died in 1865, before the end of the War. Then, according to a letter written me by Cousin Lossie (Uncle Jim's oldest child) "the house was burned by marauding "Yankees"----the negroes all left except Annie, who fixed up one of the Negro cabins in the yard and took care of the younger boys until the end of the war when Dr. Jim came home married and set up a home". Cousin Lossie was born in 1866, so was old enough to understand when people talked about recent events. Cousin Lossie, a good reporter, tells in another letter of her consternation on another occasion when another of the "Old" Negro women visited them and her mother and the old servant fell into each other's arms, hugged and cried over each other until she was "ashamed of Mother".

Another story about David T. told me by Uncle Jim (Dr. J.T.) is that during the War their home was designated as a stopping place for a courier carrying a large sum of money to the Paymaster of the army under E. Kirby Smith, then in the field between Alexandria and Shreveport. In fact Uncle Jim showed me this letter. A small boy then, still I felt glad my Grandfather's integrity was recognized so far from home. Uncle Jim was the only one of David T's sons who served in the Confederate ~~army~~ Army. He was 21 and had completed two years of his Medical course at Nashville Tenn. when called to serve as a Surgeon. He was captured at "Island Number Ten" ~~g~~---- when that River fort fell to Grants armies. Uncle Jim spent the rest of the War, as a Prisoner of War at Camp Douglass near Chicago,---in its hospital services. I was greatly astonished when he told the Yankees were not a bit mean to him. That----was so unlike everything I knew about Yankees. I would not have been a bit surprised to learn they twisted his arms inside out and made him eat rats--

I have come to know several thousand Yankees since then,now it is easy to understand how Uncle Jim had it so easy when their prisoner. ---------In looking over my notes I find I am in error about Uncle Jim spending the rest of the war a P.O.W. at Camp Douglas. Actually he was exchanged returned to duty, continued to serve until after "The Surrender"-----or as we used to hear "After the Surrendah".

In the preceeding I have made some quotations from letters of Cousin Lossie, ...remarked that she is a good reporter----------I have been looking through her letters. There is one I rate a historic document. Some of it I have already quoted, but I am going to put it in here without any editing. It was written in reply to my question that she knew about the Jenkins children,son and daughter of Martha Jane,David T's sister and her cousins. I thought they might have lived near Falcon. They did not.

Here is the letter :-

Melrose, New Mexico.
Nov. I , 1948

"Dear Cousin Jim :-

" I hardly know how to answer letter to me. Of course it is news to me. ------(about the Martha Jane Jenkins children)----" We had no kinfolks at Falcon except my Grand-father and Grand-mother--(James Brandon)--their children,my father James Thompson Valliant. William(Valliant) married and lived in Arkansas,I think,down around Camden. I saw them once. They,his wife and two daughters,came to see us after mother died and father married again(1877)--were there a week. They(the 2 girls) were about the age of Charlie and me, or maybe Charlie and Della. They were very poor I am sure,from the way they were dressed. We had only two "Rockers" and those girls lived in those rockers. Every body else had to take the "Straight" chairs. We children did'nt like them one bit. If father helped them ,her, in any way I dont know ; but we never saw or heard of them again.

Uncle Ed(your father),Tom and LeRoy all came to Texas and still lived with us(1870) Uncles Ed and Leroy were my favorites. I thought they were just about Right. Uncle LeRoy stayed there awhile and then(from Hamilton County) went West. Uncle Ed and Uncle Tom were there till they married. Tom married first. Your father and mother(cousin Mattiemarried a while before we moved back to Arkansas(1876) Your mother and my mother were first Cousins----------now these and Mother's Father and Mother were all the kin we had at Falcon--except,my Mother had a family of cousins--Carsons. ----they had three children, 2 girls and a boy. They were grown when I visited them when I was ten years old. They

were very nice people. The girls were beautiful ladies. That was all the kin we had in Falcon. My Mother's Mother was Mary A. Carson.. There are none in this Grandpa's Bible except Valliants(Fathers family) and Grand-Father Brandon's family, Denton Robertson's birth and then a lot of Oprys.....I never saw or heard of them. They must have been kin to Mother's step-Mother's kin.

I dont know whatever went with Father's Bible. After Grandparet Valliants were gone,we had the two. I used to think you folks had it------or Tom's family-----but have been told your folks didn't have it. I used to have a picture of Grand-Father and Mother Valliant, but I dont know where it went to. We lost a trunk in moving. ....it must have been in it. They were a fine looking couple. He was about as your father and my father:--Grandma was small. Tom and William were like her----Ed,LeRoy and Father took after Grandfather, larger.

Now for the Negroes:- Annie cooked for the Big-House That was the way the Negroes spoke of their owners homes,or where they lived. They called them Master and Missus. They had other Negroes,but these had gone when they were freed,before Father came home from the War. Aunt Annie stayed and kept house for Ed, William,LeRoy and Tom till Father got home from the War. The Yankees had burned their home. Annie cleaned out one of the Negro Cabins and kept the boys in it. Father came home from the War,bought a place,married and the boys lived there with him. They called it Home , but they worked.

My Mother was an only child,so she found family in them. She was an educated woman, and very pretty. She was Queenly in all her movments. She sang well and Uncle s Ed and LeRoy were good singers,so they sang together so much. They used to sit on the porch at night(Pa gone)--they would Sing and Sing. I would lie on the floor and listen. I thought it was fine ,wished I could sing like them. I never could,but my girls could. I never tired of listening to them. My boys cant sing much.

Annie heard we were back in Falcon. She came to see us in a two-horse wagon,drove up to the back gate,got out-Mother saw her----started out to meet her. They met in the back yard ---------of all the hugging and kissing------Annie Just shouted. We children just stood and looked. We thought it terrable to see Mother hug and kiss a black Negro,but they were so happy to see each other. Annie never did go back home. The Lucy that cooked for us eight or ten years on a stretch,came to us from folks she used to belong to. She never belonged to any Valliants,except us. Lucy was sure a treasure and we children sure loved her. She was a treasure for any family to have. We children were by her like Mother was by Annie.

There were Valliants in Northern Arkansas, but Mrs Lane

has them--also the ones at Albuquerque. I sent Mrs. Lane the letter I had from him. There are some Valliants in California----------and, a lot of Raymonds. I am going to find out about this. I have a big book of the geneologies of the Raymond family----------excuse this, it is rambling----put it together if you can. I get nervous when I get to writing------not much of a writer these days,at eighty-two years old.

"You said you used to hear me talk. I never thought I could do that very well ; but since I got your letter I got to thinking--------every little bit some one saying : "I do love to hear you talk"--------so there must be something in my gab that they like. Thank you------.

I am fixing to go to California in December. Wish you and my children could know one another."

----------From another letter of Cousin Lossie's I give another excerpt which has something about family relations. This say. :--

---------- "There was a wagon load of folks came to our house once when we lived in Moffet (Tex.),When I was,maybe, six or seven years old. ----Man,wife,daughter and son , grown, and also an Aunt(maybe). She was a deaf-mute Uncle Ed was at our then, a young man. They talked of Old Times----and Kin nearly all the time. There is still yet in the old Brandon Bible, a picture of Lieutenant James Lafayette McCollum of the 6th Arkansas Infantry Regiment.C.S.A. He was born in Franklin County Alabama , Aug. 10 , 1837.----- Was killed in Tenn. December , 1862. I recollect that they had the picture out and talked a lot about it. There was an "Aunt Beckie McCollum who stayed at our house in Falcon,(Ark) quite a bit while. I dont know where her home was, but I am sure she was the wife of the McCollum above. She was a sister of Grand Pa and Uncle Bob Brandon. She was a nice woman,and I thought a lot of her.

I have a piece of white velvet----or it was white---- it is yellow now and soiled from years---- it has grapes, strawberries & apples painted on it. It was painted by Martha Jane Valliant. My mother had it framed and under glass when I was a child, but it has been in this Bible for the last fifty years,that I know of.

Love to you both

Lossie Raymond.

At this time Cousin Lossie is 66. I hope to get you other reminiscences of her childhood for inclusion hereafter,among these sidelights on family history. Cousin Lossie ,from the information and acquaintance I have with her members is the senior living descendant of Robert Pioneer Valliant and wife Martha (Burdock). Of course it is understood Martha Jane is David [illegible] Thompson's sister----mother of the Jenkins children.

In nominatin Cousin Lossie Dean of the Valliant Longhorns, I do so hoping that if I have miscalculated, some one will come forward to correct me. A close competator I know is Mrs L.B.(Bettie) Chiles of Union City Tenn. I have not seen Cousin Lossie but once in the last sixty-five years, but from all accounts she is on the way to becoming Dean of the whole Valliant Clan---East--West-----South and North.

Now that about all the Statistics and Pedigree material has been taken care of,to the best of my ability and opportunity, I want a little attention for lighter things--like the story of the Beauty, Ann Valliant. There a good many legends about Ann, romantic of course. Boiled down they tell of an orphan whose beauty won the heart of a Boston Blue-blood. Ann's father was a John Valliant who married a girl at or near Royal Oak, between St Michaels and Easton. This John must have been a Grandson of Nicholas of Ck Charles County because his name ,marriage &, do not fit him as a son of John of Tred Avon,,,their wives and children are all known. The girl he married was named West. He first name we do not know. The mother died when Ann was a child, she was taken to the home of her Uncle , Captain West, in Annapolis. There she grew up to young womanhood. She was in a store,in Annapolis, one day. A young man named Seth Sweetser seeing her asked the proprietor :- "Who is that pretty girl over there ?" the store-keeper replied :- "Her name is Ann Valliant". To this Seth's reply was : "I am going to marry her", and that is just what happened. Seth was a descendant of a Mayflower family-----but then Ann was only twenty five or thirty years behind him in family history. They raised a family of eight children----three sons ,five daughters. Other members of the family have interested themselves in Ann. One , a descendant of Lucy her's, Among them Mrs. Virginia Dorsey Lightfoot, of Takoma Park, Md. a suburb of Washington ,D.C. Mrs Lightfoot in letters to a Valliant Descendant named Gardiner or Gardner,of New York, said in the course of several letters :-- (some were quotations)---- "The only refference to the Valliant family in my father's handwriting that I can find at present is :- "Seth Sweetser, born June 5 , 1762. Married Ann Valliant November 9th, 1790. She was born on the Eastern Shore of Maryland Dec. 11, 1765; Died, Sept, 1823. Children born to them were Samuel,Mary,Seth,Ann Elizabeth, Maria,Susan, Thomas," ----then "From the Bible of Seth Sweetser" . later Mrs Lightfoot wrote :- " I have never seen this Bible and I dont know where it is, but I will try to find out for you when I go to Baltimore in a few weeks. " Later she again wrote to Mr. Gardner :- "Aunt "Russie"(my Great-Aunt),Sarah R. Hause, wrote that--"Ann Valliant was a daughter of John Valliant whose wife was Ann Robinson,of Tredhaven ,on the Choptank in Talbot County, Maryland"---------- again , "I am sure that Treadhaven was a settlement of Friends(Quakers) and no doubt the Record of the Friends Meeting House would throw light on the Valliant and

Robinson families. -------
"Orphan Annie"is the tie that makes us third -cousins".

There is still another letter from Mrs. Lightfoot. I am uncertain about who she was writing to , but think it must have been Mr. W.E. Valliant,now dead,the brother of Mr. Edwin S. Valliant of Centerville. The letter says :-

"In your paper I see that after the name of Ann Valliant,who married Seth Sweetser,you have :-"See Valliant family".---------I have never seen any records of the Valliant family and would like so much to know where they are to be found. I have only the names of Ann Valliant's parents, and, that she was left an orphan and was raised by her Uncle, Captain West of Annapolis. In studying Heredity I have been especialy interested in Ann Valliant,whose traits can be traced directly through six generations. In a stage-play that I am writing on Heredity, Ann Valliant is portrayed as"Ann Goodheart,"

I shall be glad to hear more of the Valliants and,also, to know where you found the Roger Williams clue. I dont quite make out the name of the man whom you supposed was the father of Mary Rhodes.....is it"Rearined Rhodes" ?.

Thanking you for any information you can give me and hoping to have the pleasure of meeting you, I am

Sincerely yours

Virginia Dorsey Lightfoot.

Perhaps I should mention that the above quoted from letters were written many years ago before the Valliant family had gone far with the Records. William E. Valliant compiled a vast roster of Valliants. I myself filled out one of his questionaire. This was fifteen or twenty years ago. When Mr. William E. died his collection of Valliant history notes were given to his brother Edwin S. of Centerville in Queen Ann County. When I visited Mr Edwin S. in 1949 he turned over the entire collection to me for a study. Among these papers I found the Lightfoot letters. It was indeed a treasure-hous of family lore. Among other items was an old photograph of the original farm house at Ferry Neck(Bellevue) where John (2H--I) lived his last years. The photo was over fifty years old and the house about two hundred. It is the house that stood over the basement and foundation on which J.Newman Valliant's house stands near Bellevue. I have had a number of copies made. Mr. Edwin's son,Jimmy, went through part of the collection with me. While about it,he picked up a long clipping from a newspaper---(the Baltimore Sun) He read it for a while,then said ,"Here is something interesting" and handed it over. I had read quite a bit of it before I realized it was an account of the marriage of my daughter Maude Drake Valliant to M.Guillaume F. Mortier of Rouen , France. The clipping

was nearly twenty years old ,which should excuse,somewhat, my tardiness in recognizing details related to daughterd's wedding

Another item I found in Mr. William's collection was a clipping from the Huntsville Democrat, July 10, 1844, but preserved in the Boston Public Library and copied for Mr.W.E. For his collection. It is in Newspaper Records of Ala. Vol. 15 of the Boston Public Library. The item :----------

"Died, in Washington County, Mississippi, on the 8th of June,(1844) at the residence of Dr. Kilpatrick--of fever, Colonel Denton Hurlock Valliant late of North Alabama. Left bereaved family".

Also concerning Denton Hurlock was another note from th the William E. Collection was an excerpt from "Early Settlers of Alabama", by Colonel J.E. Saunders of Lawrence, County, Ala. Published 1909---Vol I, Page 71. :-----

"Denton Hurlock Valliant was the 8th Sheriff of Lawrence County. I am not advised from what State he came. When I moved to Moulton he was industriously carrying on the trade of a Cabinetmaker. He was a man of good natural mind, and embraced every opportunity of improving a very defective education. He was honest and very tenacious of his opinions, and was much respected. After being Deputy, he was elected Sheriff and made an efficient and popular officer---so that he was elected to the legislature in 1841 and also in 1842. He married a Miss Kilpatrick, as did Mr. Branch who lived in the grove at Moulton Springs. They (misses K.) were ladies of some culture and sisters of Dr Kilpatrick,who was a successful practictioner on the lower Mississippi River. I knew him when he came to visit his sis sisters. I have been told that Mr. Valliant,who,with his wife,has been dead many years,left two sons,left two sins who have become lawyers of distinction,-to wit :- Frank of Greenville,Miss. and LeRoy of St Louis. If this is so it is probable that the direction of the boy's minds was given by the mothers. Denton H. Valliant was a Lieutenant in the Company of Volunteers for the Florida War to which I have alluded".

It appears that Colonel Saunders did not follow very closely the thread of the story of his neighbor's sons. LeRoy was for many years Chief Justice of the Missouri Supreme Court....as I have mentioned earlier, I would like to mention once more that Judge LeRoy concluded a long time ago ago that We of the Robrt Spencer family are descendants of Nicholas(22---I Judge LeRoy has no descendants. His sons, Frank and LeRoy both died unmarried. I met LeRoy several time times and Frank once---in his home at Leota Landing. When I was there the River had about finished swallowing the lands of their old plantation home. Some day I hope to learn what has become of the Bound "Decisions" rendered by Judge LeRoy. There were rows of volumes.

William Harris Valliant, 3rd, son of
William Harris Valliant Jr, - Born June 12, 19[illegible]

Walter Robert Moore Valliant son of
William Harris Valliant Jr - Born June 21, 19[illegible]

Annette Eulalia Valliant daughter of
William Harris Valliant Jr - Born August 17,

Joseph Newnam Valliant Jr, son of
Joseph Newnam Valliant - Born August 19, 1940

William Harris Valliant, 4th, son of
William Harris Valliant 3rd, - born January 26

Hope Valliant, daughter of William Harris
Valliant 3rd - Born April 1, 1944

James Hope Valliant, Born 2[illegible], 1955

Irene Valliant, daughter of Walter Robert Moore
Valliant, Born January 7, 1950.

John Robert Valliant, son of Walter Robert
Moore Valliant. Born December 24, 1954

over

William Harris Valliant III, son of
William Harris Valliant Jr
Born June 13, [illegible] — Duplicate.

[illegible]

[illegible] 196[illegible]

2707 1